

16
DAYS
TO GO

#50GoldenYears

Times OF OMAN



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Schools reopen
amid precautions

A3

ROYAL DIRECTIVES

HM issues directives to set up six priority schools

MUSCAT: The Diwan of Royal Court yesterday issued a statement reading as follows:

"Within the context of the attention accorded by His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik to the education sector and His Majesty's keenness to provide a supportive, incentivising environment for education and to empower it with all means, since it is the mainstay of nation building now and in future, His Majesty the Sultan has issued his Royal directives to the Diwan of Royal Court to fund the construction of six priority schools to the tune of OMR8.85 million in the forthcoming period.

May the Almighty Allah grant His Majesty the Sultan a long life and may He assist His Majesty with success and guard him as a treasured support and inspiration for Oman and its loyal people!" - OMA



TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN

Oman gains on EPI

1 The Sultanate advanced six positions in the 2020 Environmental Performance Index (EPI) issued by Yale University of the US. **>A2**

WORLD

Coronavirus cases

2 The number of coronavirus cases worldwide has crossed 46 million, two days after hitting the grim milestone of 45 million. **>A7**

MARKET

MSM index falls 1.6%

3 Oman's stock market declined for the second consecutive month during October-2020, in line with most of the other equity markets in the GCC, a new report has said. **>B2**

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY DECISION

OMR3 transit travel fee from Jan 1

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Civil Aviation Authority has amended parts of the executive regulations of the Civil Aviation Law. Under the amended regulations, a fee of OMR3 will be charged for transit travellers.

The decision stipulates that "The transit passenger fee in Arti-

cle 87 of the executive regulations of the Civil Aviation Law will be OMR3 for the transit passenger." The new fee will be applied from January 1, 2021. According to article 87 of the executive regulations of the Civil Aviation Law transit passengers were exempt from the departure fees for international flights at the Sultanate's airports,

which amounted to OMR5.

According to executive regulations of the Civil Aviation Law, the company that manages the airports collects the departure fee owed by the traveller for international flights operating from the airport that manages it, and in all cases, the collection of departure fees is as follows: **>A3**

SEVEN-DAY QUARANTINE MANDATORY FOR PEOPLE COMING TO SULTANATE



All those coming to Oman must get a polymerase (PCR) test done 96 hours prior to their arrival



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Supreme Committee tasked with tackling developments resulting from coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has said that people arriving in the Sultanate from abroad have to undergo a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test within a period of not more than 96 hours prior to entry time.

They should also undergo the same test upon arriving in the

Sultanate, observe a 7-day quarantine period and repeat the PCR test on the 8th day. The test should be conducted in accordance with the document furnished by the Ministry of Health citing conditions and requirements. The decision was made during a meeting held at the Interior Ministry yesterday under the chairmanship of Sayyid Hamoud bin Faisal al Bussaidi, Minister of Interior, Chairman of the Supreme Committee.

The meeting reviewed updates

on development of the pandemic locally and internationally, as well as measures to protect populations against the virus, curb its spread and tackle its different impacts.

It also reviewed a proposal on public volunteering to help fight the pandemic. In this context, the committee tasked walis to start registering volunteers, whose efforts it described as "a contribution to the noble national task". It pointed out that the details of the initiative would be unveiled later.

ENVIRONMENT

Arabian Leopard spotted in new location

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A new study has revealed the presence of the Arabian Leopard in a new place in the Sultanate, the Office for Conservation of Environment (OCE) announced. The animal is a rare breed that inhabits the Arabian Peninsula.

Under threat

It is classified by the International Union for Conservation of Nature



(IUCN) as being threatened with extinction at the critical level.

A recent environmental study carried out this year by the Environmental Conservation Office at the Diwan of the Royal Court, represented by the Department of Environmental Affairs in Salalah, revealed a new scientific registration confirming the presence of the Arabian leopard in the area west of wilayat of Dhalhut in the Dhofar Governorate in two different locations. **>A5**

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Ministry of Health: 689/2020



OMAN



PRAYER TIMINGS

Dhuhr.....	11:56pm
Asr.....	3:09pm
Maghrib.....	5:33pm
Isha.....	6:44pm
Fajr (Tomorrow).....	4:56am

#50GoldenYears



Sultanate celebrates 50 years of progress

Oman jumps 6 places in Environmental Performance Index

WASHINGTON: Oman advanced by six positions in the 2020 Environmental Performance Index (EPI) issued by Yale University in the United States of America (USA). The Sultanate ranked 110th in the world, compared to the 116th place in the 2018 Index. The Sultanate also ranked 50th globally in the sub-indicator of Household Solid Waste Management, 96th in air quality indicator, 57th in Drinking Water and Sanitation, 2nd globally in the Species Protection, and 7th globally in Biodiversity indicator. The Environmental Performance Index 2020 includes 32

environmental indicators, 12 of which are used for the first time covering 11 environmental fields. The EPI sheds light on the uses of natural resources and the ability of these resources to provide the necessary services, not just in matters related to pollution. This year's EPI ranks 180 countries based on a number of indicators that provide a nationwide measure of how nearby countries set consistent environmental policy goals and hence finding a mechanism that highlights leading countries in terms of environmental performance and best practices. - ONA



FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES CREDENTIALS OF AMBASSADORS

Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamoud Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister on Sunday received a copy of credentials of Amjad Jamil Al Quhaiwi, appointed-ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Sultanate. The Foreign Minister also received a copy of credentials of Mohammed Arzan Johan, appointed-ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the Sultanate. During the two meetings, Sayyid Badr welcomed the ambassadors, wishing them success in carrying out their duties, and the bilateral relations between the Sultanate and their countries further progress and prosperity. - ONA



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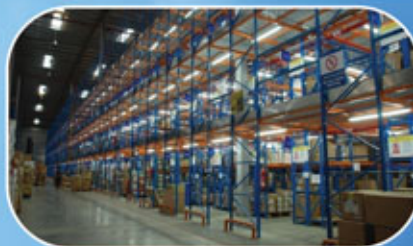
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TRANSIT FEE

Schools reopen in Sultanate with all precautions in place

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Dock	2 Inbound & 4 Outbound Docks (Equipped with dock leveler)
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Khaled Al Adawi

Irrational consumption of water

No one disputes the importance of water. It is the backbone of life. Its uses vary from drinking, irrigation of agricultural crops, bathing and washing to cleaning of various forms and types, as well as its uses in various foods and beverages, and in many industrial and commercial operations, and in public parks and private gardens.

Despite the availability of water through government services or by means of water tankers operated by companies or individuals specialised in water delivery, the excessive use of water has become a nuisance and increases the suffering of concerned bodies that provide it. Among the reasons for this is the lack of regular maintenance of connection pipes inside houses, farms, establishments and factories, which costs the state great losses resulting from the cost of maintenance and excessive consumption of water.

It should be noted that during this period there are many water leaks and acute drainage of water without taking advantage of the leaked water, as a result of the lack of regular maintenance in establishments, factories, homes, gardens, etc.

People complain about bad service, but some of them do not consider that negligence come mainly from themselves as a result of the aforementioned. Therefore, we call upon everyone to consider the necessity of rationalisation, repairing the issues that lead to leaks through periodic maintenance, and closing leakage gaps, in a way that ensures better service availability, especially since the service has become available in every home except for some areas that will automatically enter the service according to the five-year plan programme.

As it is known, the sea is the main source of water that is distributed in various governorates and wilayats through the main desalination plants in Al Ghubra, Barka, Quriyat, Sohar, and Sur, which in turn contribute to reducing dependence on groundwater and providing water security for the Sultanate.

When we follow the most prominent indicators of water production in each plant, according to Diam website, we find that Al Ghubra Desalination Plant, which is the oldest and largest water desalination plant in the Sultanate, produces 42 million gallons of desalinated water per day; while the production capacity of Barka plant in the first phase area is 20 million gallons and in the second phase area is 12 million gallons per day. As for Sohar desalination plant, it produces 33 million gallons of water per day; Sur plant in South Al Sharqiyah Governorate produces 100 million cubic meters per day; the water desalination plant in the wilayat of Quriyat produces 44 million gallons per day; and Dhabab desalination plant in the wilayat of Quriyat produces 1000 cubic meters per day.

The water purification plant in Wadi-Dayqah dam produces about 125,000 cubic meters per day and the water desalination plant in Khasab has a production capacity of about 16,000 cubic meters per day. The production capacity of the water desalination plant in Al Sharqiyah is about 55,000 cubic meters per day, which is expected to enter service by the end of this year.

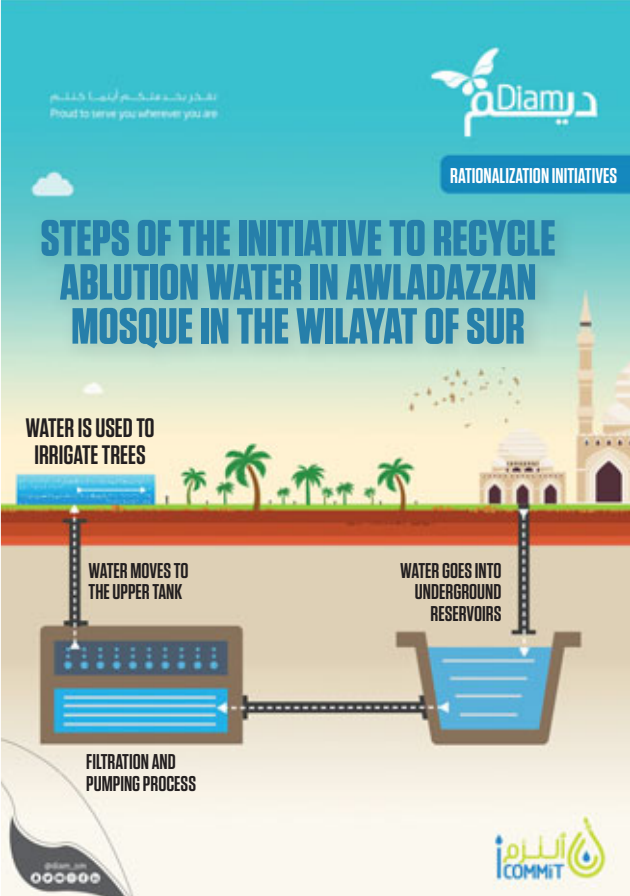
DIAM: STRATEGIC PLANS FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION AND SPREADING INFORMATION AND AWARENESS

Diam implements the best practices to activate effective communication through a comprehensive communication strategy for its vision, mission, values and objectives. The communication vision is for Diam's communication team to be award-winning and the best in institutional communication among the governmental institutions in the Sultanate. This can be achieved by adhering to the values of communication in Diam and commitment to its goals and that its communication with the target groups is characterised by professionalism, transparency and integrity. The communication message of Diam is "to ensure continuous communication with the public in an innovative and effective manner using modern technology".

The communication strategy aims to achieve a number of main goals, including internal and external goals, targeting employees as stakeholders, society, and partners including contractors and related parties, in order to achieve an effective partnership with the community on all of Diam's strategic water projects that contribute to supporting efforts to achieve sustainable development in the Sultanate. It also aims to increase community awareness of the importance of rationalising water consumption and to convey its message about its vision to be a leading service institution that applies international best practices to contribute to achieving sustainable development for the Sultanate of Oman. It also aims to highlight the efforts made by Diam and the challenges it faces to fulfill its responsibility in addition to providing information in a systematic manner for the public in time, especially in emergencies. The strategy also aims to communicate with the media, community representatives and various related sectors in addition to improving the effectiveness of external communication, by using innovative channels that reach a range of audiences, including young people.

Enhancing communication among employees

Diam works to enhance communication among its employees by organising a number of activities. Such activities include various events such as the Employees Forum, which is implemented according to a specific programme that includes all governorates. This Forum aims to discuss the most important topics that have a significant impact on the progress of Diam's work and the professional future of employees in order to achieve employee awareness of the events in the institution in which they work, thus enhancing belonging and job satisfaction towards the institution and its work. It also aims to enhance employee's participation in decision-making by establishing a structured and purposeful discussion that promotes exchange of views and constructive ideas to formulate job practices that contribute to improving and developing the overall performance of the organization.



formance of the organization. In addition, Diam launched a social committee as part of its strategic projects to enhance communication among employees. The committee includes a group of volunteer teams formed by employees from different governorates. Those teams carry out specific activities outside the scope of work such as trips and camping. The teams include the women's team that works on the aspect relating to female employees, community volunteer work and other activities. This, in turn, creates an informal, fraternal environment. In addition to the Employees Forum and the employees social committee, Diam works to enhance communication with employees through printed and electronic periodicals, e-mails, and the internal employee portal, which is an interactive and meaningful platform between Diam employees in various governorates.

Communication with the public

As part of the efforts Diam experts, it carries out field media

visits to its strategic projects, in addition to holding community meetings for officials and representatives of the community. The plan of field visits by journalists and media representatives aim to inform media about the projects implemented by Diam and to put them into the event in order to see the mechanisms and plans of implementation in an atmosphere of professionalism and transparency, in addition to knowing the efforts being made to implement water projects in areas with difficult terrain, which can be seen only by going there.

On the other hand, Diam held introductory meetings in the offices of governors and walis in order to achieve the principle of effective communication with the community members, each in his wilayat, to learn about water delivery efforts and the participation of community representatives and members in the areas where projects are being implemented. Diam's website also provides a comprehensive package of information to the public, including custom-

ers, researchers, and those interested in the water sector in the Sultanate. In addition to information, the website includes a package of electronic services for customers through the electronic services portal, which provides all electronic services to customers, including self-reading of meters, e-payment and other services.

Moreover, Diam plays its pioneering role in spreading its message to the public through various means including print, audio and visual media platforms, such as e-newspapers, daily newspapers, monthly and semi-annual newsletters, in addition to television, radio and various electronic means.

Awareness campaigns

As part of the strategic projects carried out by Diam, the awareness campaigns implemented by Diam is going on, through which Diam aims to promote community thinking for all segments of society through targeted messages and various activities. This year, the activities of the "I Commit" Campaign, which is implemented by Diam for the fourth year in a row, is going on. This year the campaign came with a number of initiatives and actions that, as a whole, aim to enhance awareness raising.

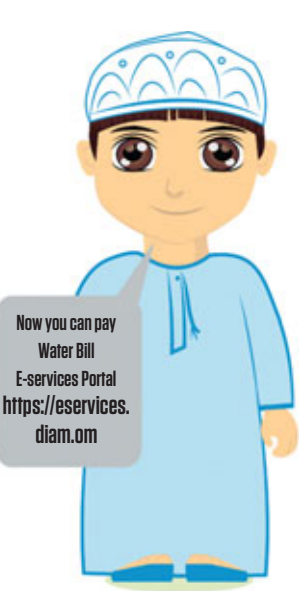
Among the Campaign initiatives this year is the initiative to recycle ablution water in mosques and schools and make use of it in irrigating crops and reducing water consumption. The two initiatives were implemented in Awlad Azzan Mosque in the wilayat of Sur and Al-Amal School for the Deaf and Dumb, in addition to another initiative targeting the students of Al Amal School for the Deaf and Dumb, which delivers the awareness message to rationalise water and show the efforts made to deliver water through sign language. This is in addition to carrying out field visits to work sites for school students to introduce what is being done, such as visiting the National Center for Monitoring and Control of Water (SCA-

DA) in addition to the initiative of Ballorah Company to innovate (Al Muzn) product which contributes to rationalizing water consumption. The product consists of coconut crop residues and acts as a reservoir that absorbs water and nutrients and stores them in the tree root area.

Diam's social media accounts

Diam is fully aware of the importance of social media and its power in communicating with the public and the ease of interaction with everyone directly and quickly. From this standpoint, Diam has worked continuously to enhance its position in this virtual world to run its business taking into consideration the feedback of social media users.

Diam has activated its own official accounts on various social media platforms. The activation of these accounts is based on five main goals set by Diam. These goals highlight Diam's vision, mission, objectives, plans, and as a source of news and information. It also aims to achieve an electronic community partnership, enhance values, transparency and consolidate identity. In addition, and within Diam's communication strategy, Diam broadcasts the weekly Diam Show programme on YouTube, which comes every Saturday and covers the various activities, events and projects implemented by Diam.



MINISTER OF EDUCATION

His Majesty’s directives to set up six priority schools hailed

MUSCAT: Dr Madeeha Ahmed Al Shaibaniya, Minister of Education, has valued the directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik to the Diwan of Royal Court on setting up six priority schools over the forthcoming period.

“The Royal directives come within the context of His Majesty’s keenness to provide support to school education and enhance the Ministry’s efforts to meet the actual needs of schools, including buildings, which serve as centres for learning and grooming of our offspring,” said the minister.

She added that the Royal gesture reflects His Majesty the Sultan’s conviction in the role of education in shaping the present and future of the nation, as well as the importance he attaches to providing all means and facilities necessary for the Ministry of Education to accomplish its mission.

Dr Madeeha greeted teachers and the educational staff on the occasion of the new School Year (2020-2021), which began on Sunday. She expressed her thanks and appreciation for their efforts in forming the front line in imparting knowledge to the young generation.

The minister also congratulated the pupils and students on the occasion. She wished that this year, in which the System of



Dr Madeeha greeted teachers and the educational staff on the occasion of the new school year, which began on Sunday, and also congratulated students on the reopening of schools.

Blended Learning and online education has been endorsed, would be a year full of activity and acquisition of knowledge from various sources and platforms.

Dr Madeeha urged the students to interact fruitfully with their

teachers during online classes. She also called upon parents and guardians to follow up the education of their children and advise them to utilise their time wisely so that they could get the desired benefits. — **DNA**

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING



Council of Oman attends IPU meet

MUSCAT: The Council of Oman, represented by the State Council and Majlis Al Shura, is taking part in the extraordinary session of the Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

The session, held via video-conferencing, began on Sunday and run through until November 4, 2020.

The Council of Oman is represented by Dr Aisha Said Al Ghabshi, member of the State Council, Jihad Abdullah Al Fanna, member of Majlis A’Shura Office, and Jamal Ahmed al-Abri, Head of Education and Scientific Research Committee in Majlis A’Shura.

Session’s agenda

The session’s agenda includes an opening speech delivered by the current IPU president and approval of the agenda, as well as taking decisions related to the work of the IPU, including the approval of the parliament’s action plan, the approval of the 2021 budget and the election of a new president and members of the executive committee. — **DNA**

NOTICE



Our employee **Mr. Qaiser Waseem Pakistani** national Passport No. **BJ0574352** and Resident card No.69592515 working as Business Development Manager in our organization **M/s Stars Light L.L.C.** Since he is leaving our company on 02/12/2020, if anyone has any type of claims and any other matter , contact us on or before 20/11/2020. Thereafter we are not liable for any type of claims related to him.

Our contact details
Telephone: 24697025/26 / Fax: 24600217
Email: starmail@omantel.net.om

1st Death Anniversary

In Loving Memory of



Mr. Rajan Kanath
Senior Director (Al Ansari Engg Services LLC)
(30.04.1935 – 01.11.2019)

Time flies, but you are fondly remembered in our lives.

Inserted by:
The management, staff of Al Ansari Engineering Services LLC



Sultan Qaboos University Hospital

PRE-QUALIFICATIONS TENDER ANNOUNCEMENT

Sultan Qaboos University Hospital announces the following tender:

Tender No.	Subject	Non-Refundable	Last Date Of Collection The Tenders	Site Visit Date	Last Date Of Submission
2020/755	Provision Of Facility Management Services In SQUH	Fee in OMR. 50	10/11/2020	11/11/2020	30/11/2020

Tender Conditions:

- The companies who are registered in Tender Board shall collect the documents during office hours from 8.00 am to 1.00 pm from the Procurement Department/ Sultan Qaboos University Hospital.
- The site visit shall be at 09.00 am in the Technical Affairs Department building / Sultan Qaboos University Hospital.
- The tender quotations shall be sealed and addressed to Procurement Director; Sultan Qaboos University Hospital. The tender number and the name of the tender shall be mentioned on the tender document. It is not accepted to indicate or mention the name of the company or its logo on the envelop.
- The quotations are subject to the Tender General Terms& Conditions for the Sultan Qaboos University Hospital.
- Sultan Qaboos University Hospital is not bound to accept the lowest bid or any other bid.

Procurement Directorate
Sultan Qaboos University Hospital
AL Khoudh / Sultanate of Oman
Tel: 24144680/ 24144633
Fax: 24413156
E-mail: supplies@squ.edu.om
www.squ.edu.om





Ministry of Social Development

Tender Announcement

The Internal Tender committee of Ministry of Social Development hereby announces the following tender :-

Tender No.	Tender Subject	Grade	Last date for obtainment of tender document	Last date for tender submission	Tender Document Price (non-retund-able)
10/2020	Provision of food staffs and suppling goods for child hood care center at al khoud	Excellent & One & Two	Thursday 19-11-2020 02:00 PM	Thursday 10-12-2020 10:00 AM	R.O. 25/=

- ❖ Specialized Companies, registered with the **Tender Board** may obtain the Tender documents at theTender Board e-tendering digital portal link (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.om>), On Monday 2/11/2020
- ❖ Tender shall be submitted in compliance with the technical specifications and terms along with a local bank warranty at (1%) of the tender value, valid ninety (90) days from the date of e-submission.
- ❖ The original (1%) bank warranty to be submitted at same day of submitting at tender box located in Directorate of Finanace & Administration at MOSD HQ.
- ❖ For Inquiry , please contact though the e-tendering website (reg@tenderboard.gov.om) tel. (24402222 or 24166670)

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Management Discussion and Analysis Report

We are pleased to present the un-audited financial statements of ACWA Power Barka SAOG (the “Company”) for the period ended 30 September 2020. The financial results of the period are summarized as under:

Riyal Omani in Millions

	Period Ended 30 September 2020
Gross Revenues	41.03
Gross Profit	14.22
Profit / (Loss) after tax	8.15
Basic earnings / (Loss) per share – Riyal Omani	0.051

Overview

The COVID-19 pandemic is far more than a health crisis: it is affecting societies and economies at their core, globally. While there is no way to forecast accurately what the economic damages from COVID-19 pandemic will be but there is a widespread agreement among economists and healthcare experts that it could have severe short-to-medium term negative consequences on the global economy.

The Company along with its Operator continued to manage the emerging operational challenges in a safe manner. The Plants continued to operate with highest reliability standards while keeping safety at the forefront and contributed its share to the National Grid. The team worked on alternate shifts thus ensuring that there is no or very minimal impact on the workforce. The Company and its Operator would like to thank the entire Barka team for their resilience and determination during these difficult times.

The Company has completed the summer period with the end of the quarter. We are pleased to announce that reliability factors of the power and MSF water desalination facility remained at almost 100%. The two-seawater reverse osmosis-based water plants continued to get affected by the algae bloom condition that prevailed during the period. The Company is protected from this impact under the force majeure provisions of the respective Water Purchase Agreements (WPAs) which will result in extension of the WPAs with the hours that have been affected due to these conditions. These forced majeure related events do result in deduction from capacity payments of the Company.

The outcome of Power 2022 Procurement Process is taking longer than envisaged. The process started back in 2018 and your Company submitted a competitive bid to the Off taker earlier in the year. There is continuing uncertainty on the status of Power 2022 bidding process as OPWP recently issued a statement clearly mentioning that due to the Pandemic the demand remain uncertain. We therefore believe that this situation poses a significant risk to the company obtaining an extension under Power 2022 project. These risks were all highlighted in the 2019 Annual Report and we are carefully reviewing and monitoring these risks as they evolve and will update the Shareholders and Regulators in a transparent manner. We draw your attention to the Future Outlook and Key Risks section of this document where we have presented key risks and challenges faced by the Company.

In 2019, the Company disputed the methodology adopted by the Off taker in the renewal process by lodging an appeal with the Authority for Public Services Regulation (previously Authority for Electricity Regulation). The Authority issued an unfavourable decision which was disputed by the Company in the Primary Court. Unfortunately, the Primary Court issued an unfavourable decision nearing the end of the quarter. The Company is in consultation with its legal counsel to identify the best possible way forward including contesting the unfavourable decision in the Appeals Court.

Plant performance during the period

Power Generation

Nine months Ended	Energy Exported (GWH)	Load Factor	Reliability Factor
2020	1,406	54.9%	99.9%
2019	1,410	55.4%	96.3%

Similar to 2019, the plant operated in Call-Off mode during 2020 as well. In this reporting period load factor remained slightly lower than the same period of previous year.

Despite the drop in load factor and frequent start-ups/shutdown of power units, reliability of the power plant during the reporting period remained ~100%. This high reliability factor is a reflection of operation and maintenance excellence of the O&M team.

Water Generation

MSFe Water Facility

Nine months Ended	Water Delivered (MMm³)	Load Factor	Reliability Factor
2020	0.7	2.9%	99.7%
2019	0.2	0.8%	99.9%

In comparison to previous year, the load factor during this reporting period is slightly higher due to the request of Off-taker to operate the plant in Call On mode (i.e. MSF in service) for first eight days of March. A slight drop in reliability factor is reflection of the challenges which were faced during start-ups of the MSF units in March as a result of being on prolonged standby mode.

Reverse Osmosis (RO) Phase 1 Facility

Nine months ended	Water Delivered (MMm³)	Load Factor	Reliability Factor
2020	6.76	54.2%	99.1%*
2019	5.81	46.8%	99.0%*

*after incorporating majeure claims events of the corresponding years

The reliability Factor of the RO-1 during the current reporting period remained in line with the same reporting period of 2019. This is a result of multiple corrective actions implemented at the plant. On other hand load factor has also remained higher during the current reporting period due to higher grid demand.

Continuing with the historical trend there were multiple episodes of algal bloom during this year as well. The algae bloom resulted the seawater quality parameters outside the Technical Limits. Such a situation is prescribed as Seawater Quality Failure under the WPA and recognized as a force majeure event (“FME”). The Company formally launched the Force Majeure claims to its off-taker and has already secured OPWP’s approval on majority of the claims.

Reverse Osmosis (RO) Phase 2 Facility

Nine months ended	Water Delivered (MMm³)	Load Factor	Reliability Factor
2020	9.5	60.7%	96.0%*
2019	9.1	58.4%	94.9%*

*after incorporating force majeure claim related to algal bloom of corresponding years

The load factor during first nine months of 2020 is almost in line with the same period of 2019, however, there is an improvement in the reliability factor due to gradual attendance of the teething challenges faced during prior years. One issue which is still being addressed is the frequent leakages from the DWEER pressure vessels. To address this issue, new vessels were ordered in Q1-2020 however there is a slight delay in arrival of these vessels due to COVID-19. O&M Operator is in touch with the vendor to ensure there is no further delay. Considering this delay is caused due to the event which is beyond Company’s control, the Company has launched a Force Majeure/Buyer Risk event claim to OPWP on this delay. The same is under OPWP’s review.

Similar to RO phase 1 facility, the RO-2 facility was also affected by Seawater Quality failure events during first nine months of 2020 as well. With each passing year frequency of such seawater algal bloom events are on rise. Such events are recognized as a force majeure event (“FME”) under the WPA and the Company is released from its obligation. The Company formally launched Force Majeure claims to its off-taker and has already secured OPWP’s approval on number of its claims while remaining are still under OPWP’s review.

Maintenance activities during the period

This reporting period primarily falls during Summer Period wherein the Company is obliged to provide a capacity of 100% for both Power plant and the MSFe water Plant.

For the two SWRO desalination plants, a 5% planned outage margin is available during a Contract Year to carry out any planned maintenance with the consent of the off-taker.

Below are the main maintenance activities carried out on the main plant, SWRO-1 and SWRO-2 plants during the reporting period

- Monthly Preventive Maintenance for Transformers and Rectifier Transformers, CEMS systems, Boilers (HRSG-1&2) Sampling systems and Analysers and Generators was carried out.
- Inspection of lifting gears and tackles for gas turbine outage activities were carried out.
- GT1 FG change over fault (GT-1 FG system failed to change over to premix mode) was reported. Stroke checks were done on the pilot gas valves and found that the left-side combustion chamber pilot gas ARGUS valve not operating. Servicing was done and the actuator was fixed back.
- Preventive Maintenance of Intake Area Diesel Firefighting Pump and Main Plant Diesel Firefighting Pump was carried out by Vendor.
- Quarterly Preventive Maintenance of Desal Switchgear Building Condensing Units #1 to 6 were carried out.
- Inspection and Preventive Maintenance was carried out for FM200 panels and CO2 systems in the main plant
- Inspection of seawater intake rise pipes were carried out.
- Hypo Plant Hydrogen Separators Inspections and cleaning was carried out.
- Hypo shock dosing Control Valve (CV) was re-installed, positioner fixed, and calibration performed.
- Preventive Maintenance jobs were carried out for all SWRO-1 Rack 1, High Pressure Pump, 1st and 2nd passes booster pumps and respective motors.
- In SWRO-1 plant, SWI header pressure control dumping valve was reported to be damaged. It was inspected and replaced accordingly.
- In SWRO-1 plant, EDG Battery bank and 110 Volts Battery bank-1 PM checks and Charger Inspection was carried out.
- Quarterly PM checks for all SWRO-1 HVACs were carried out.
- Monthly Preventive Maintenance was performed for all the instrument analysers in SWRO1 plant.
- Air and water leakages were arrested and eliminated at various locations of the SWRO-1 plant’s UFs and RO- Racks by replacement of cracked and/or leaking elbows, Victaulic joints and Tees.
- In SWRO-1 plant, UF Cartridge filter-1 element replacement was carried out due to high DP.
- Preventive Maintenance of Diesel Firefighting Pump was carried out by Vendor in SWRO-1 plant.
- In SWRO-2 plant, DWEER units’ leakages rectification was carried out for all Trains by welding based on notifications and outage opportunity.
- Routine inspection of DWEER system bolts inspection, back permeate connectors leakages was carried out for all Trains in SWRO-2 plant.
- In SWRO-2 plant, RO Train-3 DWEER vessel HP and LP side Victaulic coupling and vessel leakages rectification by grinding and welding.
- Monthly Analysers PMs including flushing and calibrations were carried out for all the five trains.
- Monthly schedule of all VFDs inspection and cooling air filters Inspection/replacement was carried out in SWRO-2.
- Train 1 filtrated water pump in SWRO-2 plant, tripped frequently when the speed increased. It was checked and rectified.
- SWRO-2 plant, all dewatering pumps periodical inspections and cleaning one by one was carried out
- In SWRO-2 plant, Train-5 DWEER actuator Preventive Maintenance was carried out.
- Preventive maintenance was carried out for the Auto Strainer 2 & 3 in SWRO-2 plant due to high differential pressure in the system.
- Inspection and Preventive Maintenance was carried out for FM200 panels in SWRO-2 plant.
- Monthly schedule of all VFDs inspection and cooling air filters Inspection/replacement was carried out in SWRO-2 plant.
- Calibration for all train’s conductivity analysers were carried out in SWRO-2 plant.
- In SWRO-2 plant, VFD panels and LV panels air filters cleaning/replacement was carried out.
- In SWRO-2 plant, RO Train-5 ERS LP outlet flow control valve was reported not to be functioning properly. Checks were carried out on positioner and actuator movement and performance of calibration was done.
- In SWRO-2, MF CIP-EFM pump-2 was reported to be having water leakage from mechanical seal. It was checked and rectified.

Financial highlights

	Period Ended 30-Sep-20	Period Ended 30-Sep-19
Income Statement (RO '000)		
Total revenues	41,031	40,254
Operating costs	(26,806)	(26,945)
Gross profit	14,225	13,309
Other costs	(6,075)	(5,508)
Net profit after tax	8,150	7,801
Earnings / (Loss) per share	0.051	0.049

Revenues

Revenue from the main plant were higher by (RO 0.92m) compared to the corresponding period mainly due to higher capacity charges and offset by lower revenue from RO plants (RO 0.14m) compared to comparative period mainly due to capacity charges. The power capacity is higher due to absence of GT stator failure related forced outage that was present in the corresponding period while water capacity of RO plants were lower due to higher seawater quality failure related forced outages.

Operating Costs

The decrease of (RO 0.14m) in total operating costs for the period ended 30 September 2020 are attributable to lower depreciation (RO 0.38m) owing to impairment of plant and machinery recognised in previous year partially offset by higher gas/ electricity consumption (RO 0.18m) due to higher despatch and higher operation and maintenance expenses (RO 0.06m).

Gross Profit

Improved gross profit (RO 0.92m) are due to higher capacity revenue (RO 0. 61m) and reduced depreciation (RO 0.38m) stemming from impairment of plant and machinery earlier recognised.

Other Costs

Other costs (net of other income) for the period ended 30 September 2020 are higher by (RO 0.57m) compared to corresponding period primarily due to derecognition of replaced parts of GT1 LTE activity (RO 0.88m) which was slightly offset by lower finance cost due to repayment of loan principal (RO 0.34m).

Net Profit after Tax

The increase of (RO 0.35m) in net profit is mainly due to higher capacity revenue as explained above.

	Period Ended 30 Sep 2020	Year Ended 31 Dec 2019
Cash Flow Statement (RO '000)		
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	11,598	7,906

	As at 30 Sep 2020	As at 31 Dec 2019
Balance Sheet (RO '000)		
Total assets	148,013	130,835
Net shareholder’s equity	46,601	38,451
Paid up capital	16,000	16,000
Current ratio	0.87:1	0.78:1
Gearing ratio	48.52	56.44
Net assets per share – Riyal Omani	0.29	0.24

Cash and cash equivalents, at the end of the period

The increase in cash and cash equivalents for the period ended 30 September 2020 is due to collection of invoices for upcoming loan repayment due in October.

Future outlook and Key Risks

The Company is looking forward to the intensive winter maintenance period that starts from October until end of April. The Key consideration could be to prepare and perform the Lifetime Extension activities on gas turbine 2 in first quarter of 2021.

The Company is facing cash flow challenges as it would need to fund significant LTE capex of GT2 in coming months on one side and significant tax liabilities that Company may be required to settle at the same time on the other side. LTE is a critical operational requirement as certain components and parts of the GT2 would have completed their useful lives in next few months and non-replacement, as recommended by the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), could put the gas turbine 2 at serious risk of a breakdown. Henceforth, if the Company operates GT2 beyond recommended Equivalent Operating Hours (EOH) and as a result the GT2 encounters a major breakdown, there is a high risk that Company may lose significant capacity revenue and incur material repair and replacement costs. The Company believes that such financial losses may not be recoverable under its insurance coverage. The LTE activity, however, will ensure reliable continued operation of this turbine for the foreseeable future. This situation can result in severe shortage of cash flows. The Company is making efforts to manage these cash flow requirements in the best possible manner including negotiations with the Banks.

The Company believes that it has a legitimate reason to dispute the unfavourable outcome of the Primary Court relating to non-renewal of the WPAs for the RO Plants. These Plants were constructed with aim of providing the much-needed capacity in the Grid on a very fast track basis and got operational only in 2014 and 2016 respectively. Non-renewal of these contracts is a high Risk to the Company and could adversely impact the Company in terms of non-recoverability of the terminal value that was assumed at the time of original bidding for the two RO Plants.

Considering the uncertainties around Power 2022 process including possibility of an unfavourable outcome and lack of economic viability in proposed spot market, it is possible that Company could face severe difficulties in repaying its loan repayments by end of 2021.

Considering the uncertainties around Power 2022 and the outcome of the court case, the Company will make an assessment in the last quarter of the year regarding the recoverability of the book value of its assets based on future expected discounted cash flows. The Company however expects that it is more likely that further impairment related losses would be recognized in Q4. This assessment is required by the International Accounting Standard Framework applicable to commercial companies.

It is worth mentioning that the Company is also in the process of reassessing useful lives and residual values of its plants in view of the economic and technical changes the industry has experienced in recent times. The Company anticipates that the outcome of this reassessment will be reflected in Q4.

The test trials of the proposed Spot Market are planned in the first half of the next year while implementation is scheduled for early 2022. The Company will continue to remain engaged with the Off-taker and the Regulator to prepare for its participation in the trial phase of this new alternate electricity market. Considering the limited clarity as of now on the economic viability of the proposed spot market, the Company at this stage is not able to make a meaningful assessment of the likely impacts.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	30 September 2020 RO	31 December 2019 RO
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	95,780,366	95,634,041
Intangible assets	218,603	308,163
Right-of-use assets	706,471	728,653
Total non-current assets	96,705,440	96,670,857
Current assets		
Inventories	4,754,123	4,911,037
Trade and other receivables	34,954,915	21,347,054
Cash and bank balances	11,598,131	7,905,552
Total current assets	51,307,169	34,163,643
Total assets	148,012,609	130,834,500
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Capital and reserves		
Share capital	16,000,000	16,000,000
Legal reserve	5,333,333	5,333,333
Special reserve	85,555	85,555
Retained earnings	25,182,265	17,031,972
Total capital and reserves	46,601,153	38,450,860
Non current liabilities		
Long-term loan - non-current portion	29,259,892	35,383,636
Deferred tax liability	9,651,011	9,889,089
Provision for site restoration	2,738,298	2,618,909
Employees' benefit liabilities	84,733	75,389
Lease liabilities - non - current portion	805,280	780,991
Total non-current liabilities	42,539,214	48,748,014
Current liabilities		
Long-term loan - current portion	12,497,398	13,214,874
Trade and other payables	35,833,743	21,198,973
Lease liabilities - current portion	17,180	7,447
Taxation	10,523,921	9,214,332
Total current liabilities	58,872,242	43,635,626
Total equity and liabilities	148,012,609	130,834,500
Net assets per share (RO)	0.291	0.240

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Period ended 30 September 2020 RO	Period ended 30 September 2019 RO	Quarter ended 30 September 2020 RO	Quarter ended 30 September 2019 RO
Income				
Revenue	41,030,877	40,254,262	16,805,468	16,239,499
Operating costs	(26,806,214)	(26,944,621)	(10,768,580)	(10,268,468)
Gross profit	14,224,663	13,309,641	6,036,888	5,971,031
Other income	27,260	641,984	10,085	638,744
	14,251,923	13,951,625	6,046,973	6,609,775
Expenses				
General and administrative expenses	(1,498,571)	(1,885,658)	(527,415)	(1,030,535)
Finance costs	(2,283,562)	(2,785,674)	(723,018)	(895,094)
Derecognition of replaced parts of plant and machinery	(875,270)	-	-	-
	(4,657,403)	(4,671,332)	(1,250,433)	(1,925,629)
Profit before tax for the period	9,594,520	9,280,293	4,796,540	4,684,146
Income tax expense	(1,444,227)	(1,479,147)	(724,374)	(786,492)
Net profit after tax and total comprehensive income for the period	8,150,293	7,801,146	4,072,166	3,897,654
Basic and diluted earnings per share (RO)	0.051	0.049	0.025	0.024
Note: The complete accounts will be sent by mail to any shareholder who requests them, in either Arabic or English, within 07 days of receipt of the request on the address mentioned above.				

Oman’s Renaissance marches ahead with full confidence

His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has focused on preserving what the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour had accomplished



MUSCAT: As the cool sun of the November 1 rises, shimmering on the horizon, it finds Omanis on a date with history—their hearts and minds full of enthusiasm. It is the blissful moment, which depicts the dawn of Oman’s modern renaissance, the epic march that still zooms forward, with full confidence and aptitude, under the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik. Since he assumed the reins of power in the country on January

PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY: In his historic speech on February 20, 2020, His Majesty Sultan Haitham laid down solid principles that outline the features of the forthcoming important stage in the country’s comprehensive march of growth. — **ONA**

11, 2020, His Majesty the Sultan has made every effort—armed with firm will, prudence and farsightedness—to follow the tracks of the late His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour, the founder of Oman’s modern renaissance. With this determination in mind, His Majesty Sultan Haitham focused on preserving what the late Sultan has accomplished. He built upon his achievements, so as to elevate further the towering edifice of Oman and to promote standards of its people for a better life, albeit with the participation of its citizens, their cooperation and the collaboration of all efforts to-

wards enriching the experience of development, progress and prosperity—all inspired to serve the country, safeguard its values and gains and enhance its security and stability. In his historic speech on February 20, 2020, His Majesty Sultan Haitham laid down solid principles that outline the features of the forthcoming important stage in the country’s comprehensive march of growth, his focus being the youth of the nation who represent its present force and future aspiration. His Majesty the Sultan expressed his keenness to listen to youth, sense their needs and explore their interests, which, he reaffirmed, will be accorded due care. His Majesty the Sultan also underscored the significance of the small and medium enterprises (SMEs) sector and the sector of entrepreneurship; particularly startups based on innovation, artificial intelligences (AI) and advanced technologies. He laid emphasis on training youth and enabling them to benefit from the opportunities available in this vital sector, so that they could build the core component of a smart economic system. Guided by the judicious directives of His Majesty the Sultan, the Sultanate has embarked on establishing tasks of Oman Vision 2040, which will begin to be implemented with effect from 2021. It is the vision which embodies the great expectations of Omani people for a brighter future. The strategic approaches of this vision have been defined in accordance with priority goals, on top of which comes a high-quality educational system, an effective schema of research and innovation to build a knowledge-based economy, the empowerment of nationals with expertise and dynamic skills that fare well at the local and international arenas, the achievement of sustainable healthcare and the employment of an administration that supports economic diversification. The Royal directives also underline the need to establish an attractive environment at the labour market, so that the private sector could take the lead in constructing a competitive national economy that fits well with the global economy. This is in addition to sustaining environment safety and building a comprehensive geographic development based on decentralization and integration of roles of the Government, the private sector and the community. All these priorities are part and parcel of a strategic approach to shape out a society that is fond of its identity and culture and faithful to its citizenship. — **ONA**

US ELECTIONS 2020

Trump, Biden blitz through key states as US sees new early voting record

WASHINGTON: As many as 90 million Americans have already cast ballots in the US presidential election in a new record, according to data released on Saturday. The high number of early voters means that, with only three days of campaigning left, the contest is poised to witness the largest turnout in at least a century. Concerns about exposure to the coronavirus at busy election day voting sites on November 3 have led to a surge in people voting by mail or at early, in-person, polling stations — reflecting the high stakes and the impact of the pandemic.



Final appeal to voters President Donald Trump and his challenger, Joe Biden, were barnstorming through key states in the Midwest and Southeast on Saturday in a bid to mobilise the remaining undecided voters. Opinion polls show Republican Trump trailing former Vice President Biden across the country, although a tight race is expected in several battleground states. Trump — who has repeatedly claimed without evidence that mail-in ballots are susceptible to fraud — held four rallies in the swing state Pennsylvania. He cautioned about “bedlam in our country” if no clear winner emerged on election night, adding without evidence that it could take weeks to sort out a result and “very bad things” could happen in the meantime. Trump also criticised Biden, saying the Democratic candidate

would shut down the state’s fossil-fuel industry, a major source of local jobs. He also mocked his opponent for criticising the White House’s response to the coronavirus pandemic. “All he talks about is COVID, COVID. He’s got nothing else to say. COVID, COVID,” Trump said. Meanwhile, Biden and his former boss Barack Obama made their first joint appearance of the campaign in two “drive-in” rallies in Michigan. “I don’t care how hard Donald Trump tries. There’s nothing — let me say that again — there’s nothing that he can do to stop the people of this nation from voting in overwhelming numbers and taking back this democracy,” Biden said. “We’re done with the chaos, the tweets, the anger, the failure, the refusal to take any responsibility.” Former President Obama called out Trump’s pandemic response, saying that 140,000 American lives would have been saved if the president had taken an approach similar to Canada’s. The virus has killed more than 220,000 people in the US, more than in any other country. “This isn’t a sporting event. This is life or death,” Obama said. He added that Trump was set to be the first president in almost a century to preside over a net job loss. **Stanford paper points finger at Trump rallies** Economists at Stanford University on Saturday released an estimate that President Trump’s rallies held from June to September had led to more than 30,000 additional coronavirus infections and possibly as many as 700 deaths. The study, however, has not been peer-reviewed and was based on a statistical model and not actual investigations of COVID-19 cases. **DW**

GRIM MILESTONE

Global coronavirus cases top 46 million

NEW YORK: The number of coronavirus cases worldwide has crossed 46 million, two days after hitting the grim milestone of 45 million. The exact cases count stood at 46,110,801 as of early Sunday (local time). The number of confirmed virus-related death reached 1,195,930, according to data provided by John Hopkins University. The global count of confirmed coronavirus cases has surpassed 45 million on Saturday, according to data provided by the University. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic on March 11. **ANI**



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- Projectors, Interactive panels, Local and Network, Cloud Servers and its hardware
- CUG telephone network and CCTV maintenance and its record
- Initiate for the Renewal of all the IT related contracts and services
- Record IT Assets and periodic supervision with the custodians of IT Assets.
- Required to Keep up to data information and developments and changes in the IT
- Hold IT infra meeting on or before 15th of every month and to maintain the records

Interested Eligible candidates please mail your resume/CVto
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SALALAH MILLS COMPANY SAOG

Salalah-Sultanate of Oman




REPORT OF MATERIAL EVENTS

Dear Shareholders,

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Board of Directors, to present to you the Unaudited Financial Statements of Salalah Mills Company for the period ended 30 September, 2020.

Sales

The total sales value during the first nine months of 2020 was OMR 39.4 million, showing an increase of OMR 1.7 Million that is 4.7% compared to the same period of 2019. In addition, the company produced 12.2 Thousand MT of Flour for the World Food Program. The export revenue was 53.1% of the total revenues in the first nine months of 2020 compared to 48.4% in the same period of 2019.

The total sales quantity of the Flour Factory had increased by 3.5% during the first nine months of the current year compared to the same period of last year, while the total quantity sold by Macaroni Factory decreased by 3.5%, and the quantity sold by Poly Propylene Bags Factory increased by about 67% compared to the same period of last year.

Social Responsibility

The company donations for Society reached OMR 194 Thousand. The donation consisted of purchasing Lab Equipment for the Ministry of Health for OMR 141 Thousand, food donation for OMR 25 Thousand, in addition to 27 Thousand contributed to "Fak Kurba" Initiative to secure the release of Debtors.

Net Profit

The company made a net profit of OMR 856 Thousand during the nine months of the current year compared to OMR 624 Thousand made in the same period of last year, showing an increase of OMR 228 Thousand, that is 6.3% due to the increase of sales quantity.

Enhancing the Feed Production Line Project

Due to the impact of the Covid19 Pandemic, The completion of the project is delayed to the second quarter of 2021.

International Wheat Prices

The international wheat prices had increased by 30% since last July as a result of high demands from importing countries to safeguard food security, dry conditions for planning the new Winter crop in parts of the USA, East Europe, South Russia and Argentina, the retain of wheat by Farmers to gain higher prices and the delay of loading of vessels in the Ports of Russia and Ukraine due to the slow movement of wheat from interiors to Ports, in addition to speculations in the wheat Boards, expected export restriction by Russia and Ukraine. This will result in higher Flour prices and lower profit margins.

Ahmed bin Abdullah Saeed Al Rawas
Chairman

BALANCE SHEET AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	30/9/2020 RO.	30/9/2019 RO.
ASSETS		
Current Assets:		
Cash at bank and in hand	2,897,426	2,381,972
Receivables and prepayments	12,312,810	13,380,138
Investments	386,549	346,005
Inventories	18,391,398	13,619,959
Total Current Assets	<u>33,988,183</u>	<u>29,728,074</u>
Non-current Assets:		
Property, plant and equipment	29,889,384	28,697,645
Total Non-current Assets	<u>29,889,384</u>	<u>28,697,645</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>63,877,567</u>	<u>58,425,719</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Current Liabilities:		
Bank borrowings	14,973,752	18,236,307
Payables and accruals	8,731,868	2,569,619
Lease liability under IFRS	4,361	0
Term loans, current maturities	-	0
Provision for Income Tax	219,943	307,682
Total Current Liabilities	<u>23,929,924</u>	<u>21,113,608</u>
Non-current Liabilities:		
Bank borrowings	5,000,000	5000000
Lease liability under IFRS	540,217	0
Term loans, excl current maturities	1,534,364	0
Deferred Government Grant	0	0
Deferred tax liability	1,023,123	1,273,229
Total Non-current Liabilities	<u>8,097,704</u>	<u>6,273,229</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>32,027,628</u>	<u>27,386,837</u>
Shareholders' Equity:		
Share capital	4,996,306	4,996,306
Share Premium	3,587,782	3,587,782
Legal reserve	2,089,103	2,089,103
general reserve	2,891,826	2,891,826
Retained earnings	18,284,922	17,473,865
Total Shareholders' equity	<u>31,849,939</u>	<u>31,038,882</u>
Total Equity	<u>31,849,939</u>	<u>31,038,882</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	<u>63,877,567</u>	<u>58,425,719</u>
Net Assets Per Share	<u>0.637</u>	<u>0.621</u>

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	30/9/2020 RO.	30/9/2019 RO.
Revenue	39,387,844	37,609,408
Cost of revenue	(35,153,698)	-34,089,551
Gross profit	<u>4,234,146</u>	<u>3,519,857</u>
Administrative and general expenses	(2,796,799)	-2,497,577
Selling and promotion expenses	(68,895)	-99,300
Other Income	55,616	379,320
Net financing costs	(403,174)	-562,750
Profit for the year before taxation	<u>1,020,894</u>	<u>739,550</u>
Provision for taxation	(164,426)	-111,039
Profit for the Period	<u>856,468</u>	<u>628,511</u>
Basic earnings per share	<u>0.017</u>	<u>0.013</u>

Note: The complete accounts will be sent by mail to any shareholder who requests the company in either Arabic or English as requested within 7 days of receipt of the request at P.O. Box No. 67, Al Awqadain, P.C. 217, Sultanate of Oman.






@salalahmillsco

CRICKET

Second victory for Muscat CT; Al Turki, Renaissance also win

MUSCAT: Sandeep Goud's all-round prowess powered Muscat CT to their second win as it eased past IT Works by 25 runs in a Premier Division T20 League game on Turf 1 of Oman Cricket's lush green twin grounds in Amerat on Friday.

Muscat had secured their first win against Renaissance last week. Kept in check for much of the first 13 overs by a potent IT Works attack, Muscat powered their way to a respectable total of 158 for 9 thanks to a whirlwind 59-run partnership for the sixth wicket between Goud (41) and Naseem Khushi (42), whose five towering sixes were the highlight of their time together.

Imran Muhammed and Shakeel Ahmad picked up three and two wickets respectively.

IT Works could not keep up the pace after opener Khawar Ali (50 off 32) departed, getting dismissed for 133 in the final over. Muhammed Nadeem and Adeel Shafique were the only other no-



Hemal Kumar Tandel of Al Turki.

table scorers with 21 each. Captain Rajesh Ranpura and Goud claimed three wickets each while Ayaan Khan bagged two.

Brief scores (Premier Division T20): Muscat 158 for 9 in 20 overs (Muhammed Naseem Khushi 42 – 1x4, 5x6, Sandeep Goud 41 – 1x4, 3x6, Prajapati Kashyap 24 – 5x4, Imran Muhammed 3-16. Shakeel Ahmad 2-25) defeated IT Works 133 all out in 19.5 overs (Khawar Ali 50 – 7x4, 1x6, Muhammed Nadeem 21 – 1x4, Adeel Shafique 21 – 3x4. Rajesh Ranpura 3-12, Sandeep Goud 3-29 Ayaan Khan 2-20) by 25 runs. MOM: Sandeep Goud (Muscat CT).

Tandel's six-for lifts Al Turki

Fast Bowler Hemal Kumar Tandel claimed 6 for 13 as Al Turki NMC secured their first win of the season beating AER in a Premier Division T20 league match on Saturday. It had lost its first game to IT Works last week.

Tandel's superb spell was the

main reason AER could not post a bigger total than 121 on the board despite a breezy 53 by veteran opener Ghazanfar Iqbal who slammed 53 off only 31 balls.

Al Turki surpassed the modest target in the 18 th over, scoring 123 for 3 thanks to solid contributions from Akshay Patel (38), Twinkal Bhandari (35) and a magnificent 31 not out off 16 by Gustav Burger. Young Muzahir Raza bagged 2 for 23.

Brief scores (Premier Division T20): AER 121 for 9 in 20 overs (Ghazanfar Iqbal 53 – 6x4, 3x6, Sachin Kumar 27 – 1x4, 1x6. Hemalkumar Tandel 6-13) lost to Al Turki NMC 123 for 3 in 17.5 overs (Akshaykumar Patel 38 – 4x6, Twinkal Bhandari 35 – 3x4, Gustav Burger 31 not out – 3x6. Muzahir Raza 2-23) by 7 wickets. MOM: Hemal Tandel (Al Turki NMC).

Machhi stars in Renaissance win

In another Premier Division game,

a solid 65 by opener Pruthvikumar Machhi helped Renaissance to a thumping 39-run victory against Arm Alpha on Turf 1 on Friday.

Abdul Rauf batted well too for his 31 as Renaissance reached 147 for 4 in 20 overs. Nainda Prasad took two wickets.

Arm Alpha never found itself in the game in its ordinary effort of 108 for 7. Parth Trivedi (28) and Ubaidullah (26) were its main scorers. Jerome Faizal and Syed Muzammil were Renaissance's most impressive bowlers taking two wickets each for 11 and 16 runs respectively.

Brief scores (Premier Division T20): Renaissance 147 for 4 in 20 overs (Pruthvikumar Machhi 65 – 4x4, 1x6, Abdul Rauf 31 – 2x6. Nalinda Prasad 2-31) thrashed Arm Alpha 108 for 7 in 20 overs (Parth Trivedi 28 – 4x4, Ubaidullah 26 – 1x4, 1x6. Jerome Faizal 2-11, Syed Muzammil 2-16) by 39 runs. MOM: Pruthvikumar Machhi (Renaissance).

Koeman 'worried' as Barcelona held to a draw by Alaves

Alaves took the lead in the match after Luis Rioja scored a goal in the 31st minute of the match



LA LIGA: Barcelona managed to level the score with the help of Antoine Griezmann's second-half strike.

VITORIA-GASTEIZ: Barcelona manager Ronald Koeman said he is worried about the team's performance in attack after his side witnessed a 1-1 draw against Alaves in La Liga here on Sunday.

"I'm worried by our performance in attack. It's not an attitude problem, nor concentration, but it's a question of being more assured in front of goal," Goal.com quoted Koeman as saying. "It happened to us against Juventus and today as well. Furthermore, we gifted Alaves their goal. But if we create that many chances, we can't miss so many. If you create chances and you only score one, it's not good," he added.

Alaves took the lead in the match after Luis Rioja scored a goal in the 31st minute of the match. However, Barcelona managed to level the score with the help of Antoine Griezmann's second-half strike.

Koeman further stated: "I think the play has been, in general, very satisfactory. I'd be more worried

if we weren't creating chances. We have to perform better in front of the goal. The final pass, the final shot. We can't miss so many [chances]. We're missing too many."

Barcelona's Antoine Griezmann said they are 'angry' after failing to win the match against Alaves in La Liga on Sunday.

"We are angry, and angry because we wanted the three points. We are failing a lot in front of the

goal, I am the first. We have had many chances, but we have only scored one," Goal.com quoted Griezmann as saying. Barcelona was restricted to a 1-1 draw by Alaves. Alaves took the lead in the match after Luis Rioja scored a goal in the 31st minute of the clash. However, Barcelona managed to level the scores with the help of Griezmann's second-half strike. Griezmann admitted that

his side has to work to improve their performance.

"We have to work to improve. The team needs my goals and I try to improve on that," he said.

Barcelona have so far played six matches in the ongoing season of the La Liga and won just two of them. Sitting on the 12th spot on the points table, the team will now take on Real Betis in the league on November 7. **ANI**

FORMULA ONE



Valtteri Bottas beats Lewis Hamilton to take pole at Imola

IMOLA: Valtteri Bottas secured his fourth pole position of the season by edging championship leader and teammate Lewis Hamilton with his final qualifying lap for the Emilia-Romagna GP, while Pierre Gasly also starred for AlphaTauri.

The Finn trailed Hamilton by just 0.031s after the first runs, but having topped both opening segments of qualifying, Bottas found the time when it mattered, lighting up the timesheets to take pole by 0.1s. Mercedes were in a class of their own at the historic and picturesque Italian track, with Max Verstappen unable to get within half a second of the silver cars, but fortunate to get to Q3 at all after encountering a power issue in Q2.

Pierre Gasly, announced at AlphaTauri for 2021 ahead of the weekend, was in scintillating form all afternoon, the Frenchman com-

fortably in the top four throughout and crossing the line to end up fourth quickest to equal his career-best start.

Renault's Daniel Ricciardo was fifth, his fourth top-five start this season, ahead of Alexander Albon who seemed unhappy with the car, but found a way to at least start inside the top six, albeit it 0.4s adrift of teammate Verstappen.

Charles Leclerc couldn't repeat his heroics of the last couple of races, but the Ferrari driver was still a solid seventh with Daniil Kvyat making a rare appearance in Q3 for AlphaTauri.

The McLaren's didn't have the pace to compete in the final shootout, with Lando Norris edging ahead of teammate Carlos Sainz for only the second time in the last eight races to complete the top 10. **ANI**

INVITATION TO TENDER

Dhofar Power Company S.A.O.C (DPC) invites reputable contractors for carrying out below said tender in Dhofar Region.

Tender Reference	DPC/Tender/2020/117
Subject	UNE-LOT 10G-2020
Tender Fee	RO. 100.000 Note: Tenderer who wish to participate in the above tender should collect the tender document from DPC's office
Experience	The tenderers shall be registered electrical contractor with Distribution Code Review Panel (DCRP) Oman (Minimum C-Grade for 11 kV jobs and D-Grade for LV jobs) and should have performed similar UNE jobs in Sultanate of Oman
Pre-qualification	Bids to be attached along with valid "DCRP Registration Certificate" and valid "CEP Passport by DPC" Shall only consider for evaluation, Further, Tenderers will be evaluated as per the pre-qualification criterion specified in the Tender documents.
Last date for issue of tender documents	03:00 PM on 16th November 2020
Last date for submission of bids	02:00 PM on 23rd November 2020
Any Queries Please Contact	Phone 23232554, lawrances@dpcoman.nama.om; praveena@dpcoman.nama.om

Tenderers are requested to note that the bids accompanied with Tender Bond (2% of the quoted bid price and having 90 days validity) shall only be considered for evaluation.



Dhofar Power Company س.م.ش.ع
A2, First Floor, Al-Sahwa Complex,
P.O. Box: 2609, P.C.: 211, Salalah, Sultanate of Oman
Phone: 23232523; Fax: 23201183
purchase@dpcoman.com | www.dpcoman.com



INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

Hard work has paid off, says Rohit as Mumbai Indians qualify for playoffs

ABU DHABI: Mumbai Indians (MI) skipper Rohit Sharma has said that all the hard work has paid off as the side has managed to qualify for the playoffs of the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) season.

MI are currently at the top of the points table with 18 points from 13 matches. The side is guaranteed a top finish in the points table and as a result, MI will be getting two chances to qualify for the finals.

"Now that we know that we have qualified for the playoffs, it is a good achievement. All the hard work we did, before we came here and also when we came here, it all paid off.

Now, one hurdle has been crossed, another small little tournament to play for us," Rohit said in a video posted on the official Twitter handle of MI.

Mumbai will next lock horns against SunRisers Hyderabad (SRH) on Tuesday, November 3 at the Sharjah Cricket Stadium. The David Warner-led SRH has to win



that match in order to qualify for the playoffs.

"We have one more game against SRH, it is going to be another important game for us. We do not want to think about the opposition, to be honest, we just want to come out here and keep the momentum going," said Rohit.

MI skipper has been out of action due to a hamstring injury. The right-handed batsman was also

not included in India's squad for the upcoming series against Australia. It was said that the Board of Control for Cricket in India's (BCCI) medical team will continue to monitor Rohit.

Speaking to ANI, a BCCI functionary in the know of developments on Saturday confirmed that Rohit will be assessed on Sunday and the area of focus would be his acceleration and deceleration process.

"Rohit will be assessed on Sunday and a call will be taken after that on whether he is good to go. As is the case with hamstring injuries, the real challenge is the sprints and the acceleration and deceleration process will be the focus to understand if he has recovered fully or will need a little more time," the functionary said.

Having injured his hamstring during the twin Super Over encounter against Kings XI Punjab (KXIP) on October 18, Rohit has had to sit out the last four games for MI. **ANI**

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THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT FOR THE QUARTER
ENDED 30th September 2020

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Bank Dhofar S.A.O.G., I am pleased to present to you the Bank's Financial Statements for the year-to-date 30th September 2020.

The Bank's Financial Performance during Quarter ended September 2020

The global pandemic Coronavirus (Covid19) impact continued to affect the economy. The bank reported a net profit of OMR 26.64 million for the year-to-date (YTD) 30th September 2020 compared to OMR 25.92 million for same period last year, a year-on-year a growth of 2.78%. Net Loans, Advances and Financing to customers' is showing an year-on-year increase of 7.89% growing to OMR 3.28 billion as at 30th September 2020, compared to OMR 3.04 billion at the end of 30th September 2019. Customer Deposits, including Islamic deposits is at OMR 2.64 billion as at 30th September 2020 compared to OMR 2.73 billion as at 30th September 2019, 3.30% year-on-year decrease.

The Net Interest Income and income from Islamic Financing activities earned were OMR 79.40 million year-to-date September 2020 as compared to OMR 83.64 million earned during the same period last year, a decrease of 5.07%. However, non-funded income such as fees and commissions, foreign exchange profit, investment income etc. increased by 7.35% year-to-date September 2020, reaching OMR 16.07 million compared to OMR 14.97 million year-to-date September 2019. Total operating income achieved OMR 95.47 million for nine months ended September 2020 as against OMR 98.60 million same period of 2019, a decrease of 3.17%. Operating expenses, excluding one-off Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Donation of OMR 1 million for Covid-19, decreased 0.70%, to OMR 51.42 million YTD September 2020 compared to OMR 51.78 million YTD September 2019. With the decline in operating income, the cost to income ratio increased to 54.91% from 52.52% for the nine-months period ended 30th September 2020 compared to the same period in 2019.

Net provisions (Expected Credit Loss 'ECL') for nine months ended 30 September 2020 was RO 11.74 million compared to 16.38 million for nine months ended 30 September 2019, a decrease of RO 4.64 million. 2019 net provisions include classification of certain large accounts reflecting the market conditions. 2020 net provisions include management overlay of precautionary provisions considering the economic impact due to Covid19 global pandemic and continued pressure on oil prices. Gross NPL (Non-performing loans) decreased to 4.51% as at 30th September 2020 from 4.58% as at 30th September 2019. Net NPL, net of interest reserve increased to 3.78% at 30th September 2020 vs. 3.65% at 30th September 2019. However, Net NPL, net of interest reserve and ECL provision improved to 1.91% as at 30th September 2020 compared to 2.17% compared to 30th September 2019. NPL is based on funded non-performing exposure over total funded exposure.

The earnings per share (EPS) for the nine-months period ended 30th September 2020 are OMR 0.007 as compared to corresponding period of year 2019 of OMR 0.007.

Maisarah Financial Performance Highlights:

Maisarah Islamic Banking Services continue to report strong growth in earning assets, financing and the operating profit. Maisarah's Gross financing portfolio has increased from RO 452.73 million at September 2019 to OMR 481.13 million at September 2020, a growth of 6.27%. The gross Sukuk investment portfolio has grown by 24.90% from OMR 53.74 million at September 2019 to OMR 67.12 million at September 2020.

The total assets increased by 5.44% to OMR 585.19 million at September 2020 from OMR 555.01 million at September 2019. As at September 2020, the total customer deposit has declined 4.20%, to OMR 344.22 million from OMR 359.07 million at September 2019.

The net financing income from Financing, Placement and Investment after cost of funds increased by 22.37% reaching OMR 11.27 million nine-months September 2020 compared to OMR 9.21 million same period last year. Operating income (funded and nonfunded) year-to-date September 2020 was at OMR 12.58 million compared to OMR 10.97 million year-to-date September 2019, an increase of 14.68%.

As at September 2020, Maisarah posted year-to-date Profit from Operations before provisions of OMR 6.58 million, growth of 16.46% compared to same period last year of OMR 5.65 million. Cost to income ratio improved to 47.69% year-to-date September 2020 compared to 48.50% same period last year.

Maisarah reported Profit before tax of OMR 5.55 million for first nine months of 2020, an increase of 19.35% compared to first nine months September 2019, OMR 4.65 million.

Awards & Accolades

Following key awards were won by the Bank during nine months' period ended 30th September 2020 and those awards are testimony to the continued efforts put in by the Bank to improve,

- Best Islamic bank in Oman - Maisarah Islamic Banking Services at the Middle East Banking Awards 2019 (EMEA Finance).
- Best Investment Banking Brand, Oman 2019 by Global Brand Awards.
- Most Successful Companies in Oman Award by Forbes Middle East.
- Best Business and Corporate Banking Oman 2020 by International Business Magazine
- Best Digital Bank in Oman 2020 by Asiamoney Middle East's Best Bank Awards

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR):

In solidarity with the nationwide efforts to combat the coronavirus (Covid-19), The Board of Directors contributed OMR 1 Million to provide the necessary medical equipment and supplies in cooperation with the Ministry of Health.

Within the same context, BankDhofar also offered loan instalment deferments for customers as support to the affected families.

BankDhofar has always been at the forefront in providing support to the community and continue delivering on its commitment to innovating strategic sustainable CSR initiatives ensuring lasting positive benefits to the local community.

Acknowledgment

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank our valuable customers for their patronage and confidence they have reposed in the Board of Directors and the Executive Management. Also, I thank the shareholders for their continuous support and Chairman, members of Sharia Supervisory Board of Maisarah Islamic Banking Services, Management and Staff for their efforts and contributions in the period.

The Board of Directors also wishes to thank the Central Bank of Oman the Capital Market Authority for its valuable guidance to the local banking sector.

We would like to wish people of Oman safety and health from the current global coronavirus (Covid19) pandemic and pray for speedy recovery of those who all affected across the world. Finally, the Board of Directors and all staff of the Bank would like to express our most sincere gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik for his wise leadership and generous support to the private sector.

Eng. Abdull Hafidh Salim Rajab Al-Ojaili
Chairman

Statement of financial position (Unaudited) for nine-month period ended 30th September 2020.	Unaudited 30 September 2020	Unaudited 30 September 2019
	RO'000	RO'000
Assets		
Cash and balances with Central Bank of Oman	105,167	261,049
Loans, advances, and financing to banks	161,138	261,391
Loans and advances (Conventional)	2,802,675	2,596,259
Islamic financing receivables	474,697	447,119
Investment securities	411,466	331,317
Intangible asset	99	496
Property and equipment	20,471	19,460
Other assets	148,872	93,363
Total assets	4,124,585	4,010,454
Liabilities		
Due to banks	569,436	390,147
Deposits from customers (Conventional)	2,299,925	2,367,267
Islamic customers deposits	344,219	359,074
Other liabilities	166,878	133,212
Tax Liabilities	12,815	10,027
Subordinated loans	35,000	63,875
Total liabilities	3,428,273	3,323,602
Shareholders' equity		
Share capital	299,635	299,635
Share premium	95,656	95,656
Legal reserve	58,966	55,878
Special reserve	17,488	18,488
Special reserve -restructured loans	1,281	1,281
Special impairment reserve IFRS 9	19,184	3,642
Special revaluation reserve investment IFRS 9	(709)	(709)
Subordinated loan reserve	14,000	30,100
Investment revaluation reserve	(2,656)	(1,003)
Retained earnings	37,967	28,384
Total equity attributable to the equity holders of the Bank	540,812	531,352
Perpetual Tier 1 Capital Securities	155,500	155,500
Total equity	696,312	686,852
Total liabilities and equity	4,124,585	4,010,452
Net assets per share (Rials Omani)	0.180	0.177
Contingent liabilities	709,594	848,120

Statement of comprehensive income (Unaudited) for nine month period ended 30th September 2020.	Unaudited 9 months 30 September 2020	Unaudited 9 months 30 September 2019
	RO'000	RO'000
Interest income	131,245	138,100
Interest expense	(63,115)	(63,675)
Net interest income	68,130	74,425
Income from Islamic financing	22,498	19,148
Unrestricted investment account holders' share of profit	(11,230)	(9,938)
Net income from Islamic financing activities	11,268	9,210
Fees and commission income	12,279	13,013
Fees and commission expense	(2,648)	(2,942)
Net fees and commission income	9,631	10,071
Other income	6,436	4,894
Operating income	95,465	98,600
Staff and administrative costs	(47,478)	(47,750)
Depreciation	(4,946)	(4,025)
Operating expenses	(52,424)	(51,775)
Profit from operations		
Net impairment loss of Financial Asset	(11,742)	(16,380)
Bad debts written-off	(1)	(4)
Profit from operations after provision	31,298	30,441
Income tax expense	(4,663)	(4,520)
Profit for the period	26,635	25,921
Other comprehensive income:		
Items that will not be reclassified to P&L		
Movement in fair value reserve (FVOCI equity Instrument)	(145)	-
Items that are or may be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods:		
Movement in fair value reserves FVOCI debt instruments	(1,884)	786
Other comprehensive income / (loss) for the period	(2,029)	786
Total comprehensive income for the period	24,606	26,707
Earnings per share attributable to equity holders of the Bank (basic and diluted) (Rials Omani)	0.007	0.007

Profit for the period OMR 26,635,000 includes OMR 4,720,000 Net Profit of Maisarah Islamic banking services excluding this, profit for the period is OMR 21,915,000 (2019: 25,921,000 includes OMR 3,948,000 Net Profit of Maisarah Islamic banking services excluding this, profit for the period is OMR 21,973,000).

Oman's MSM index falls by 1.6 per cent in October

The MSM 30 index reached 3,557.77 points by October end, recording a decline of 1.6 per cent

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman's stock market declined for the second consecutive month during October-2020, in line with most of the other equity markets in the GCC, Kamco Invest said in its latest report.

The MSM 30 index reached 3,557.77 points by the end of the month, recording a decline of 1.6 per cent, following a general downward trend throughout the month, the Kuwait-based in-

vestment strategy and research firm said in its GCC Monthly Market report.

The decline in MSM index came after the 2.93 per cent month-on-month (m-o-m) gain in the services index and 1.23 per cent gain in the Industrial index were more than offset by a decline of 3.63 per cent in the financials index during the month.

The drop in the financial index resulted from a broad-based decline in the sector with none of the stocks showing gains during the month whereas stock performance in the industrial and services sectors were mixed. In terms of year-to-date 2020 performance, the MSM 30 index now shows a decline of 10.6 per cent, Kamco said in its report.

The services index also witnessed the steepest decline since the start of the year at 15.1 per cent whereas the financials and industrials indices reported a decline of 11.5 per cent and 4.9 per cent, respectively.

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

	SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (O)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PUR VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET																
OM0000002077	AL OMANIYA FINANCIAL SER	40,000	2,960	1	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.073	0.001	1.370	0.074	0.071	0.074	0.100	21,603,203
OM0000001087	OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	482,606	188,216	9	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.390	0.000	0.000	0.390	0.390	0.396	0.100	39,000,000
OM0000001749	OMAN CEMENT	4,500	1,017	1	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.000	0.000	0.226	0.226	0.234	0.100	74,777,232
OM0000001772	AL ANWAR HOLDING	63,016	3,902	6	0.061	0.062	0.061	0.062	0.062	0.000	0.000	0.062	0.062	0.063	0.100	12,400,000
OM0000002176	AL JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	268,115	32,179	9	0.125	0.125	0.120	0.120	0.120	0.000	0.000	0.120	0.118	0.120	0.100	14,987,755
OM0000002796	BANK MUSCAT	1,623,000	584,280	25	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.000	0.000	0.360	0.360	0.362	0.100	1,169,828,114
OM0000003026	OMAN TELECOMMUNICATION	121,190	74,168	8	0.612	0.612	0.612	0.612	0.612	0.000	0.000	0.612	0.608	0.612	0.100	450,000,000
OM0000003398	SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	8,153	759	2	0.094	0.094	0.093	0.093	0.093	0.000	0.000	0.093	0.093	0.094	0.100	226,409,126
OM0000003968	OOREDOO	100,000	39,200	10	0.392	0.392	0.392	0.392	0.392	0.000	0.000	0.392	0.386	0.390	0.100	255,170,138
OM0000005005	ALMAHA CERAMICS	631	125	2	0.198	0.198	0.198	0.201	0.201	0.000	0.000	0.198	0.198	0.208	0.100	11,055,000
OM0000003224	RENAISSANCE SERVICES	58,000	19,720	5	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.340	0.344	-0.004	-1.163	0.340	0.338	0.340	0.100	80,379,400
OM0000001590	MUSCAT FINANCE	10,000	390	1	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.040	-0.001	-2.500	0.039	0.039	0.043	0.100	11,978,707
Total		12	2,779,211	946,915	79											

Parallel Market																
OM0000004768	AL MADINA TAKAFUL	44,900	3,320	2	0.074	0.074	0.073	0.074	0.073	0.001	1.370	0.073	0.073	0.074	0.100	12,950,000
OM0000001483	NATIONAL BANK OF OMAN	204,000	32,228	4	0.158	0.158	0.157	0.158	0.158	0.000	0.000	0.157	0.157	0.158	0.100	256,899,524
OM0000001566	OMAN FISHERIES	1,100	92	1	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.084	0.000	0.000	0.084	0.083	0.088	0.100	10,500,000
OM0000001962	AL MADINA INVESTMENT	96,063	2,209	3	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.023	0.000	0.000	0.023	0.023	0.024	0.100	4,764,482
OM0000002374	UNITED FINANCE	25,000	975	1	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.000	0.000	0.039	0.038	0.037	0.100	13,616,632
OM0000002572	OMAN OIL MARKETING	2,400	1,894	2	0.780	0.800	0.780	0.780	0.780	0.000	0.000	0.800	0.800	0.000	0.100	47,794,500
OM0000002820	GULF INVEST SERVICES HOLDING	476,824	14,678	9	0.031	0.031	0.030	0.031	0.031	0.000	0.000	0.030	0.030	0.031	0.100	1,824,140
OM0000003521	GALFAR ENGINEERING AND CON.	105,941	4,238	9	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.000	0.000	0.040	0.039	0.040	0.100	11,599,225
OM0000004735	SEMBCORP SALALAH	1,006,000	112,672	6	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.112	0.000	0.000	0.112	0.110	0.114	0.100	106,912,058
OM0000004925	AL BATINAH POWER	12,912	697	2	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.054	0.000	0.000	0.054	0.054	0.055	0.100	36,443,921
OM0000004933	AL SUWADI POWER	10,000	550	1	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.000	0.000	0.055	0.055	0.056	0.100	39,292,349
OM0000004420	BANK NIZWA	31,733	3,112	3	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.098	0.099	-0.001	-1.010	0.098	0.098	0.100	0.100	147,000,000
OM0000002226	AL JAZEERA SERVICES	13,500	2,758	2	0.205	0.205	0.204	0.204	0.207	-0.003	-1.449	0.204	0.175	0.205	0.100	12,485,672
OM0000005963	PHOENIX POWER	21,406	1,162	6	0.055	0.055	0.054	0.054	0.055	-0.001	-1.818	0.054	0.054	0.060	0.100	78,980,479
OM0000001400	OMAN FLOUR MILLS	5,700	4,104	3	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.720	0.744	-0.024	-3.228	0.720	0.720	0.760	0.100	113,400,000
Total		15	2,057,499	184,688	54											

MSM index ends marginally lower



MUSCAT: Muscat Securities Market (MSM) general index (30) lost 5.4 points, comprising a decline by 0.15 per cent to close at 3,552.40 points, compared to the last session, which stood at 3,557.77 points. The trading value stood at OMR1,131,604, comprising a rise of 11.9 per cent, compared to the last session, which stood at OMR1,011,339.

The report released by MSM

pointed out that the market value dropped by 0.038 per cent to reach about OMR20.03 billion.

The value of shares bought by non-Omani investors reached OMR89,000, comprising 7.87 per cent. The value of shares sold by non-Omani investors reached OMR322,000, comprising 28.46 per cent. The net non-Omani investment declined by 20.59 per cent to OMR233,000. -ONA

ENERGY PRODUCTION

India seeks global energy industry partnerships

NEW DELHI: India's Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Dharmendra Pradhan, has invited the global energy sector and industry experts to become partners in his country's shared prosperity by enhancing India's production of all forms of energy. The minister was concluding a series of three-day-long events here on the theme, "India's Energy Future in a World of Change." He said the government of India attaches great importance to improving energy security and transforming India's energy landscape at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic is adversely impacting the global energy sector.

The events were inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on October 26. Dr Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber, UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and Group CEO of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, Adnoc, was a speaker at an interactive session with Modi and leading global oil and gas CEOs.

Modi outlined a series of policy reforms that his government has been undertaking to make India an attractive destination for foreign investment in the energy sector. - WAM

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Omani is looking for job. UK graduate since 1991. B.Engg+MBA, experience PDO, Diwan, Abu Dhabi, group of Companies as GM.
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16 yrs Oman experience in procurement,logistics& customs with valid Oman DL & NOC seeking suitable position. Contact 95174968

Housemaid required for a Keralite family at Darsait. Should have experience in household work, baby care. Contact 97332392

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Indian male experience in Sales and Marketing for 12 years with Driving License looking for suitable placement. Contact 92085257

Senior Sales & Business Development Specialist from Morocco with 5 years' experience in Oman looking for a suitable opportunity and can start immediately. Contact 71744819

Filipino, male with more than 10 years experience in Oman as Sales Associate, customer service,administrative office,real estate, rent a car,purchaser and logistics with driving license. # 97761075

Indian female 8 yrs experience in Sales & marketing, D/L & NOC available seeks job. Can join immediately for full/part time. Contact 79354485

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Purchase engineer, Btech/MBA, NoC Available, Immediate joining, 3 years Oman experience, manufacturing. Contact/Whatsapp +96891740462. Email eliaspallathra@gmail.com

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E-mail: deytapash@gmail.com

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Civil engineer 12 years experience in oman NOC available # 98047527

Indian Male, Civil Draughtsman. 11yrs of experience.5yrs & 10 months of Oman experience. NOC available seeking suitable placement. Contact 968 91226236 Email: tonymxx@gmail.com.

JOB WANTED

ADMIN/HR

Indian Male, 12 years working experience in Oman,job seeking for Admin/Secretary or any suitable post. Holding Oman D/L and NOC also available. Contact No.79734085, Email: vinrai99@gmail.com

Indian Female over 18 years Experience in Administration, Accounts & Sales, in Muscat, looking for suitable placement. NOC available. Contact 93849525

Indian male with 21 years' experience in Oman seeks job for Admin / HR. Contact 95425764

Bachelor of business administrator having more than 1 year experience in sales,office job Available in Oman with valid Omani D/L and NOC. Contact: 91175015
Email-sibin.reycena@gmail.com

Recent graduate in Business Management for Manchester, UK seeking a graduate role related to Business analysis. Born & brought up in Muscat, Oman, holding valid Oman DL. Contact 93284231.
Email jashikal4231@gmail.com

HOSPITALITY

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Looking for driving job with 5 yrs experience in. Contact 79368044

Looking for driving job, 6 yrs experience with car. Contact 96176918

8 years experience on driving, looking for job. # 94629261, 95471947

Light Driver, with Excellent Knowledge of Muscat roads & areas. Languages can speak English, Arabic Urdu/Hindi, Looking Job in Office/ Company. Contact 79250786

Looking for driving jobs, 1 yr experience. Contact 94737132

Office driver, 10 yrs experience. Indian (Kerala) languages Hindi,English & Arabic. NOC available. Contact 98980364

Looking for driving job, 3 years experience in Muscat. # 78071219

IT

Indian female having 8 yrs experience in the field of software testing and administration looking for a suitable job. Contact no : 91711326

IT support & web developer having 4 yrs experience in develop website in word press, web hosting, technical support, Oracle11g & ERP support. Contact 97537011. Email m.saimasood@yahoo.com

ENGINEER

Indian, Keralite female, B-Tech Civil Engineer with 2 year experience. seeking for a job in oman, having family visa, knows AutoCad 2D,3D, Estimation. Contact : +968 71855212 Email : thahminasha44@gmail.com

B.E Civil Engineer with 6.5+ yrs experience in construction.Oman DL.NOC available.Seeking job. Contact 79012638. Email baiju.thomas.1990@gmail.com

Mechanical Design, Detail Engineering & Estimation with PVElite, Autocad, Cadworx in Oil & Gas. 10 Year Experience. Mob: 98486585

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Indian male 22 yrs with B.Tech in Chemical Engineering, seeking job as a production engineer, any other field related to Chemical Engineering. Contact 78220101

Omani, looking for job, Bachelor in Mechanical Engineering from United States of America, +2 yrs of experience in Oil & Gas. Contact 95070748 Email siyabi1430@gmail.com

B.Sc in Civil Engineering having more than 12 years experience in Oman. Hand on experience in Ministry of Health, MOD,ROP and RCA prestigious project. Available in Oman with NOC and Valid DL. Contact No. 92180869, E-mail: mamuns02@yahoo.com

Cad Engineer(Civil) looking for suitable job, 16 yrs gulf experience D/L, Noc available. Contact 98001534

MG Motors launches new ZST in Sultanate

The new MG ZST model will be joined by a 1.5L version as the British-born manufacturer significantly upgrades the line-up to offer a fresh new look and even higher levels of equipment and value for money

MUSCAT: The introduction of a punchy new Turbo model is at the heart of the Middle East launch of the latest generation of MG Motor's popular ZS crossover.

The new MG ZST model will be joined by a 1.5L version as the British-born manufacturer significantly upgrades the line-up to offer a fresh new look and even higher levels of equipment and value for money.

Offering premium style without the premium price tag, the first-generation MG ZS has played a major role in the company's success across the region. With some 5,000 units sold, the original ZS has helped lay the foundations for MG to expand its original line-up so that it now offers some of the most stylish, reliable, and best-equipped models on the market. The new ZS range, and in particular the ZST, take this offering to a new high.

The new MG ZST is equipped with a 160hp, 1.3L Turbo engine,



delivering maximum torque of 230 Nm, and mated to a six-speed automatic gearbox for smoother acceleration. The new unit greatly improves the performance of the upgraded MG ZS. The acceleration of the 1.3 Turbo is 9.8 seconds from 0 to 100 kmph and has a top speed of 185km/h. It complements the fuel-efficient 1.5L powerplant that delivers 6.2L/100km.

The new models benefit from major style enhancements on both outside and inside, in keeping with MG's contemporary design language. All ZS models feature a new hexagonal grille re-designed LED headlight and rear LED light clusters, while a sportier look is conveyed by the black finish applied to the grille, headlight and fog lamp trim, rear-view mirrors, side skirts and wheels.

The interior has also been re-

freshed, most noticeably courtesy of a new dashboard design and more extensive use of soft-touch materials, while the two-tone colour design is complemented by the red stitching and carbon fibre look interior trim. A huge panoramic sunroof is available on the ZST LUX model, making life on board even more pleasant for passengers. As a crossover, practicality remains a key requirement and here the extra-large boot with flexible configuration options certainly delivers.

Tom Lee, Managing Director of MG Motor Middle East, commented: "The MG ZST is an ideal model for our younger buyers who are looking for an exceptionally well-equipped car that also delivers strong performance and stylish good looks, without breaking the bank. And with our best-in-region

manufacturer warranty of six years or 200,000km, our customers know that they can spend their hard-earned money in total confidence."

Mohsin Hani Al Bahrani, CEO of Mohsin Haider Darwish's ACERE division (Automotive, Construction Equipment and Renewable Energy) mentioned, "A key MG selling point is the availability of features that are more normally found in premium cars yet at no extra cost. The new MG ZS is no different and all trims come equipped as standard with a rear parking sensor and camera, 17" alloy wheels, a 10.1" HD touch screen with CarPlay and Android Auto, cruise control, rear air conditioning vents, keyless entry, an electric parking brake and push-button start."

"The MG ZST takes this value for money package onto another level, adding a state-of-the-art virtual instrument panel for the driver, a 360° surround parking camera that eliminates all blind spots, curtain airbags for extra safety and a Trophy Sports Kit that emphasises the new model's sporty credentials. Alongside the MG ZST sit two other trim levels, both for the 1.5L variant: LUX and STD," he added.

The new MG ZS is now available for sale across the Middle East. This comes at an extremely exciting time for the brand in the region, where it has seen sales rocket over the past couple of years.

Suhail Bahwan Auto receives 'Safe & Clean' certification from Nissan Middle East



MUSCAT: Suhail Bahwan Automobiles have received the coveted 'Nissan Safe & Clean' certification from Nissan Middle East FZE (NMEF) for complying with the sales and service protocols established as per the programme.

Designed to maintain high levels of health and safety measures across authorised Nissan dealers in the region, Nissan Middle East FZE (NMEF) 'Safe & Clean' certification programme requires partners to abide by set preventive and safety measures. Keeping in mind that the safety of its customers, associates, employees and community is of uppermost priority, NMEF had prepared a set of guidelines in the region on safety procedures which covers customer safety, employee safety at workplace and facility network.

A spokesperson for Nissan Oman said, "The Nissan 'Safe & Clean' certification is an important acknowledgement for us. Following safety procedures remains a key priority for us at Nissan Oman. We are committed to our pledge to enabling a safe environment as we welcome customers to our showrooms, service and after-sales centres. The 'Safe & Clean' certification indicates that we follow best practices while offering confidence to our customers.

These protocols along with operating procedures set by the Supreme Committee have been adhered to meticulously at all our facilities to ensure Safe Environment for all our discerning customers."

Nissan Middle East FZE 'Safe & Clean' programme extends the precautionary measures put in place in response to the developing COVID-19 pandemic in the region earlier this year with all Nissan dealers required to complete a Facility Audit Checklist to get certified. The checklist includes implementation of various health check system for customers & employees, adoption of COVID-19 service and sales standard operating procedures, effective implementation of the vehicle sanitisation process, and more.

Nissan facilities have been abiding by all the mandated safety procedures set by the Supreme Committee and Nissan Middle East FZE. As part of the protocol, customers, visitors and employees mandatorily wear a mask and go through thermal screening as per regulation recommendations. Employees are encouraged to perform tasks alone and only one employee can be present per workstation. Not only are the common areas cleaned after use, but all workstations are sanitised between corresponding customer interaction.

ACTROS HEALTH CHECK

Mercedes-Benz Oman ensures optimal performance for its hard-working trucks

MUSCAT: Continuing to set standards in aftersales care, Mercedes-Benz Oman is offering Health Checks exclusively for its Actros trucks in Muscat, Haima, Salalah and Sohar.

Carried out by certified technicians, the comprehensive check is available between November 1 and December 1 and is designed to specifically target those components that are prone to wear and tear. Available for 6-cylinder engines for just OMR98 and 8-cylinder engines for just OMR105, the specially customised service includes a comprehensive maintenance check covering all the essentials, offering complete peace of mind for companies and drivers, while ensuring their fleets continue to perform their best.

Gary Brown, General Manager of Commercial Vehicles at Mercedes-Benz Oman, said, "Mercedes-Benz trucks have a reputation for reigning supreme, especially under extreme conditions like the sand, heat and heavy loads that we have here in Oman. They're unmatched in versatility and performance but maintenance is key to keeping the trucks running reliably, efficiently and safely. Our Health Check offer delivers excellent value retention to our customers and maintains the ground-breaking innovation we're known for."

The Mercedes-Benz Actros



Health Check package is equipped to ensure that each vehicle remains in peak mechanical health, and includes engine oil (mineral oil) and filter change, replacement of diesel filter, checking for oil leaks on major components, checking and adjusting fluid levels, diagnostic check-up of vehicle

electrical system, engine compression test with a diagnostic tool that gives an indication on engine condition, multi-point inspection, retightening of lug nuts on two/three axles, and vehicle washing and greasing.

With the truck manufacturer's 'best customer service' attitude con-

tinuing to guide the aftersales care, Mercedes-Benz Oman Commercial Vehicles offers an unrivalled range of tailor-made and reliable transport solutions, local service and parts supply throughout the wide national network of Mercedes-Benz branches, as well as expert technical and driver support.

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No matter how large your family, the roomy and comfortable Hyundai Palisade will be able to easily accommodate all of you, and then some. With incredibly convenient technologies at hand and a wealth of SmartSense safety innovations, the Palisade is truly a remarkable SUV that is perfect for family life and proves itself to be a highly capable performer.

Every row of the luxurious SUV that can accommodate up to eight passengers has comfortable, quilted leather seats that are great for longer car rides. My family loved that they could adjust their seats to lean back even the third row. Not only is the Palisade great for large families on a day-to-day basis, but it's also the perfect ride if you enjoy going on longer road trips in Oman.

I started my journey from Rex Road in Ruwi to Sharqiya Sands, which is also known as Oman's adventure playground. Named after the nomadic Bedouin tribes, this desert region is known for its amber-coloured sands and towering sand dunes, some standing up to 330 feet (100 metres) high. After reaching Sharqiyah Sands, I realised Palisade is a feast for the eyes not only from outside but also from inside.

Sixteen cup holders are spread over three rows of seats. Seven USB power outlets so that the children can connect their devices and watch a movie if they get bored. Wireless charging. Individual rear-seat climate control. A power-folding rear bench seat. Mid-row seats that can be dropped from the back with the touch of a button. The centre console features a 26-cm touchscreen

multimedia panel, and the 31-cm gauge display is digital on higher trim levels.

Under the hood, the Palisade is powered by its proven 3.8-litre V6 engine, making 291 horsepower and 262 lb-ft of torque and mated to a shift-by-wire eight-speed automatic transmission, thereby enhancing vehicle performance by adding pre-programmed functions to the vehicles' operating system. Hyundai claims it has the most horsepower of any three-row SUV in its class.

While returning, my son, Aarush dozed off and luckily, I was able to select a function called quiet mode, which allowed me and the front row passengers to listen to music while muting the rear speakers for him. However, one of my favourite features is the vehicle intercom! It projects the voice of the front passengers to

the rear seats. So I didn't have to scream at my son for playing free fire (a mobile game where players enter a battlefield where there is only one winner) on his mobile for long hours.

The 2020 Hyundai Palisade's styling conveys dignity with style in an understated theme that demonstrates clear differentiation worthy of a flagship SUV. A bold and wide cascading grille dominates the front, clearly representing a premium SUV. Separated composite headlamps and a vertically connected forward lighting signature create a strong and distinctive demeanour. A powerful, extended hood profile creates an impressive road presence, while bold C-pillars and a panoramic glass side graphic convey generous third-row spaciousness. Fender flares and full-body sides accentuate Palisade's muscularity. The rearview emphasises a wide and stable stance via sinuous detailing and a vertical LED rear tail lamp design. Panoramic rear glass coupled with a cutaway roof provides a generous sense of spaciousness for rear passengers.

Unlike the vertical rise suggested by the exterior design, the interior design emphasises a horizontal layout that promotes a sense of relaxation and comfort, creating a lounge-like environment with eight-passenger seating as standard for family outings. The Palisade not only accentuates the luxurious aspect of a large-size SUV but is a vehicle that was designed in the true perspective of the customer, through careful consideration of what more values can be provided.

It offers a home-like 'spatial experience' where various innovative and smart technologies can be enjoyed. So, when are you going for it?



Bank Muscat named Safest Bank in Oman

The ranking was released by Global Finance as part of its rankings for the Safest Banks in 112 countries worldwide



MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, has been ranked as the Safest Bank in Oman by Global Finance.

The ranking was released by Global Finance as part of its rankings for the Safest Banks in 112 countries worldwide. The 29th annual list of 'Safest Banks by Country' was selected

through an evaluation of long-term foreign currency ratings – from Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch – and the total assets of the 1,000 largest banks worldwide. Global Finance is read by decision-makers across 191 countries including senior corporate and financial officers responsible for making investment and strategic decisions at multinational companies and financial institutions. The annual rankings of the World's Safest Banks have been a recognised and trusted standard of financial counterparty safety for more than a quarter-century. Saleh Nasser Al Habsi, Deputy General Manager, Investment Banking, said, "Bank Muscat is delighted to be ranked as the Safest Bank in Oman. For over 38 years,

the bank's success has been the result of understanding the consumer better and presenting them with innovative services and products. In line with the vision 'To serve you better, everyday', the Bank Muscat brand is synonymous with innovation, reliability and trustworthiness. This highly-acclaimed award is a well-deserved tribute to the largest banking family in Oman." As a forward-looking financial institution, Bank Muscat is committed to the development and progress of Oman through its operations across the Sultanate. In tune with the banking requirements of a young, tech-savvy generation, Bank Muscat enjoys an edge in hi-tech products and services, including electronic payment and web-based services.

RAB HR partners with Cornerstone for talent management solutions in Middle East region

MUSCAT: RAB HR has recently been appointed as a Middle East partner by Cornerstone for their talent management solutions. This unique partnership between a leading global talent management solution provider and a seasoned HR technology implementer will provide clients with the right combination of global and local expertise for all their talent management requirements. "RAB HR's strong presence in the region gives us deep insights on 'what would work and how' and this combined with access to best-in-class products and services offered by RAB HR

presents a unique proposition to our clients. We have handled several talent management implementations across the Middle East region and have the unique ability to work across industry domains," mentioned Venkatesh Palakkad, Principal Consultant, RAB HR. "We understand people development processes as well as technology with the same ease. Most of our consultants are senior HR professionals with very strong functional as well as technical knowledge," mentioned Pavithra Kamadai, Senior Consultant, RAB HR, Oman.

PROMOTION

Benefits on Toyota Prado



MUSCAT: Toyota's powerful Prado is engineered to make even the smallest journeys an absolute delight. Equipped with Toyota's inspiring off-road DNA, the Prado's capability and strength are advanced in every sense. Customers interested in owning the powerful Prado can benefit with cash gift from OMR1,500 up to OMR3,500 and service 3 years/30,000km service (whichever is earlier). (Prospective buyers may be advised that the benefits vary between model variants, model year and manufacturing year. Terms & conditions apply. Visit the showroom for exact details, please). Visually stunning, the new Prado features a unique design which appears even more dynamic, yet maintains three core strengths

essential to the Prado's celebrated 'go-anywhere' credentials. These are 'Total Practicality' – with headlamps and cooling openings positioned to maximise both protection and wading depth; 'Total Durability' – with the powertrain and all functional parts well-protected and 'Total Capability' – with the tight turning circle and generous ground clearance essential for even the most demanding off-road driving. Prado's class-leading features complement its thrilling power and performance. Presently Prado has two petrol engine variants - 4.0 litre delivering 271 HP and 2.7 litres delivering 163 HP. It offers 6-speed automatic transmission on petrol models along with full-time 4WD with centre differential

limited-slip differential. Available in either 17" or 18" alloy wheels, the Prado has led type headlamp & clearance lamps and moonroof. Toyota Prado's refined interior has plenty of room to comfortably accommodate up to seven adults. It is also equipped with a host of high-end luxury features - chrome side protection moulding, cool box, cushioned seats offer wonderful under-thigh support. Second-row seats fold in a 60:40 split offer enhanced utility with a slide function and walk-in accessibility for facilitating easy ingress/egress for the third-row seats. The third-row seats, fold in a 50:50 split. In Oman, the nationwide parts and service network of Saud Bahwan Automotive supports Toyota's outstanding product quality.

GREENER, SUSTAINABLE OMAN

be'ah launches first mobile waste recycling unit

MUSCAT: Continuing its efforts towards a greener, sustainable Oman, be'ah has launched the first mobile recycling unit in Al Batinah Governorate as a step to implement recycling initiatives to recover value from different materials, and reduce the amount of waste disposed of in engineered landfills which is the core of the company's waste diversion strategy. Such initiatives encourage the public to practice and support the concept of waste sorting and segregation from the source. The recycling units will be located in Barka and Al Rustaq as an initial stage, and then the service will be expanded to cover other wilayats like Al Musanaah and Nakhal.

Eng. Abdullah Mohamed Al-Balushi, Operations Manager for Al Batinah South, said in a statement, "We have successfully launched a mobile recycling centre initially in Wilayat Barka, it consists of four sorting categories for plastic, glass, paper, cardboard and tin cans. Promoting awareness "The unit is supervised by be'ah employees and the Governorate Operating Company to spread awareness, promote the concept of waste sorting and reduce waste generation at source. The centre is expected to continue in Wilayat Barka for 10 days based on its effectiveness, the rest of the centres will be distributed as per the com-

pany's planned timeline." Al Balushi explained, "The mobile recycling centre is a 20 m3 container and the inner part of it includes bins for different types of waste which will be then recycled." Al-Balushi also said, "The waste collected in the centre will be transported by a dedicated truck according to the schedule of each site. The recycling unit will be available for ten days at the same location, the public can utilise it from 7 am to 10 pm. This will give them more exposure to the service. We are currently working with local companies to recycle these types of waste to reduce the amount of waste destined to our engineered landfill, thus saving spaces in these landfills."



NATIONAL DAY CAMPAIGN

Al Maha launches campaign for its prepaid card users

MUSCAT: To celebrate the glorious 50th National Day of the Sultanate, Al Maha Petroleum Products Marketing Company launched a campaign for its prepaid card customers, which will continue throughout the glorious month of November. This comes out of its keenness to strengthen the relationship with the community and as pride due to choosing Al Maha filling stations and various products. The campaign allows Al Maha customers who buy their fuel from Al Maha filling stations, spread across the Sultanate, for OMR5 or more using prepaid cards, to enter the weekly draws. 20 winners will be selected every week with a total of 80 winners throughout November. This is in addition to 50 winners in the November 18 draw. Every winner will receive fuel worth OMR50. The more you buy fuel, the chances of winning the raffle draw increase, which enhances the opportunity for Al Maha customers at all its 220 filling stations. Engineer Hamad bin Salem Al-Maghdari, CEO of Al Maha Petroleum Products Marketing Company, expressed his great happiness with this campaign launched by Al Maha to celebrate the 50th glorious National Day. He said that the campaign reflects the great joy on this occasion in terms of participating in the country's celebrations of the Golden Jubilee and loyalty for Al Maha customers. He added that

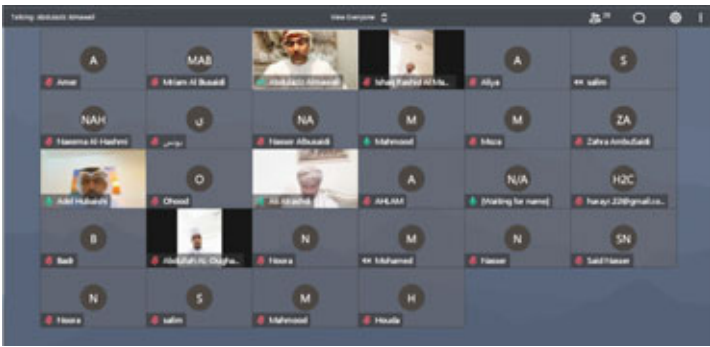


the company is always keen to participate in national events to introduce joy and pleasure to the hearts of community members. Al-Maghdari said that the campaign comes within the framework of encouraging the use of prepaid Al Maha cards that provide holders with many advantages, especially about regulating fuel consumption and safe use of an alternative of cash in light of the precautionary measures taken to prevent the infection with COVID-19. He said that the company also made the campaign on the occasion of the glorious National Day an opportunity to honour 50 good-performing employees of the company in appreciation of their efforts and as a motivation to do more and that the honour will be an incentive for their colleagues to increase their efforts during the coming period.

TAJIRIBATI SESSION

Zubair SEC discusses importance of diversifying business income

MUSCAT: To help members to diversify, grow and achieve success, Zubair Small Enterprises Centre (Zubair SEC) organised a 'Tajribati' session on importance of diversifying business income. The recently held virtual 'Tajribati' session provided an overview of how diversification can be a key business strategy to help SMEs deal with the COVID-19 pandemic and find ways to survive and innovate. Specialists and participants discussed why diversification is an important growth strategy for every business. They debated the approaches that need to be applied to diversify revenue streams and how to identify new sources of income. They stressed the importance of creating or reviewing the resources available in the business. They also discussed the challenges involved in entering a new market or industry that members do not currently operate in. Abdullah Mohammed Saud Al Dughaiishi, founder, Gourmet Taste Sweets LLC, a member of Zubair SEC, who is among the winners of the centre's Direct Support Programme for 2016 said when his main business was partly affected, he decided to pursue his passion for business related to gardening. He explains, "Since I wanted to diversify my source of income I started researching about my passion. It took me a month and a half to start especially since it was quite different from what I was doing business in currently. Soon I started a business related to gardening which included designing



landscapes, laying gardens. My new project achieved great response and I was able to obtain six contracts during the pandemic." Ali Said Abdullah Al Rashdi, owner of Muaawana, a member of Zubair SEC, who is among the winners of the centre's Direct Support Programme for 2016 said when his business was greatly affected by the crisis he seriously began thinking about new possibilities. "With an intention to create a new sustainable revenue stream we created a paid app for smart devices through which an entrepreneur or the owner of the project could start working from home with ease. Through this app they can market their project through

within our resource seeking new opportunity relating on our experience and equipment we did sign a contract with SouqMazoon, which is an e-commerce platform, to provide them with call centre management services and vendor relations management services. This proved to be a great opportunity for Muaawana that helped to prevent our existing call centre staff from becoming redundant, while at the same time generating new income. Abdul Aziz Saleh Ahmed Al Mawali, founder of Modern TAJ AFI (Smartech Solution) and also a winner of the fifth edition of the Direct Support Programme 2018 organised by Zubair SEC when his business was greatly affected by the crisis he seriously began thinking about new possibilities. "With an intention to create a new sustainable revenue stream we created a paid app for smart devices through which an entrepreneur or the owner of the project could start working from home with ease. Through this app they can market their project through

online platforms that they can design, build, and manage remotely without the need to open a physical store. This new stream of business proved to be a blessing for us," he says. Adel Hubeishi, Senior Adviser, Zubair SEC, stressed on the importance of understanding the needs of the market before diversifying. He said, "Only then businesses will be able to know how to use their resources in the right way. Successful businesses have been able to fast track growth and consolidate gains even during periods of challenges by tapping into different revenue streams. The answer lies in investing your energy and effort to utilise your resources which could be equipment or relations in generating new revenue streams are relevant and complementary to the customer base." The 'Tajribati' series serves as a unique platform to connect industry experts with start-up owners and new entrepreneurs to exchange views, discuss common challenges and share best practices. The 'Tajribati' discussion series organised by Zubair SEC, a social responsibility initiative of The Zubair Corporation, is aimed at supporting young entrepreneurs and owners of small and medium enterprises. The recent virtual Tajribati discussion sessions have been gaining very good momentum. Members and non-members share insights with their fellow entrepreneurs, discuss matters of concern, share knowledge and experience, and network in a friendly constructive atmosphere.

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